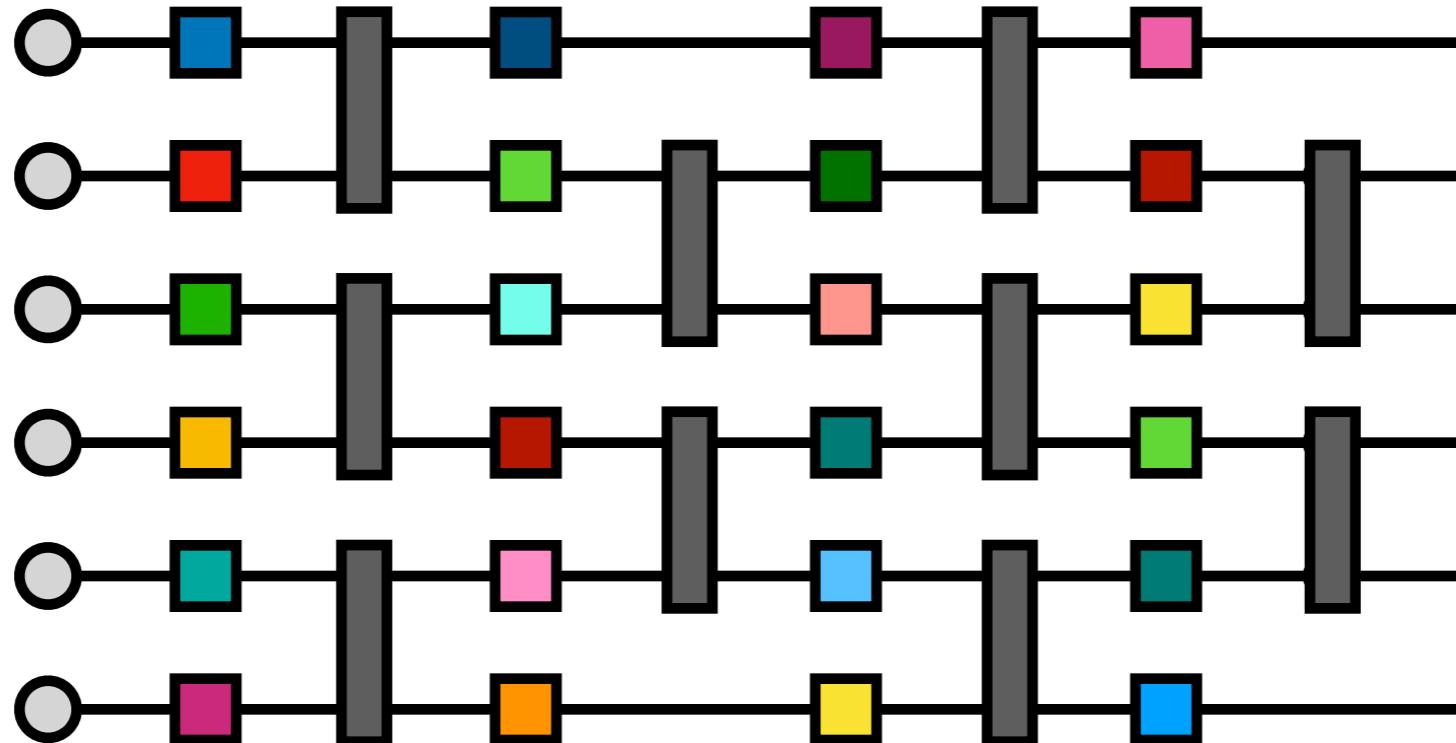


# Introduction to Tensor Networks



$$|\Psi\rangle = \text{---} \begin{matrix} s_1 & s_2 & s_3 & s_4 & s_5 & s_6 \end{matrix} \approx \text{---} \begin{matrix} s_1 & s_2 & s_3 & s_4 & s_5 & s_6 \end{matrix}$$

The diagram shows the state  $|\Psi\rangle$  as a product of tensors  $s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5, s_6$ , which are represented by vertical lines. An approximation symbol ( $\approx$ ) indicates that this is a low-rank approximation of the full tensor network shown above.

# Flatiron Institute



## SIMONS FOUNDATION

The mission of the Flatiron Institute is to advance scientific research through computational methods, including data analysis, modeling and simulation.



**CCA: Center for Computational Astrophysics**

**CCB: Center for Computational Biology**

**CCQ: Center for Computational Quantum Physics**

**CCM: Center for Computational Mathematics**

**CCN: Center for Computational Neuroscience**

**ICC: Initiative for Computational Catalysis**

# Who are we?

Karl Pierce

Flatiron Software Fellow

*High-performance computing*

*"CP" tensor factorizations & applications*



Miles Stoudenmire

Research Scientist

*Tensor network algorithms*

*Applications to condensed-matter physics*

*Broader applications (machine learning, classical physics)*



# Plan for Today

- Tensors and [Tensor Networks](#)
- [Quantum Circuits](#) as Tensor Networks
- Intro to the [ITensor Software](#)
- [Algorithms](#) for Tensor Networks (MPS and MPO)
- Using [ITensor](#) on GPU
- Future of Tensor Networks: [Functions & Machine Learning](#)

# Plan for Today

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- Future of Tensor Networks: **Functions & Machine Learning**

# Introduction to Tensors

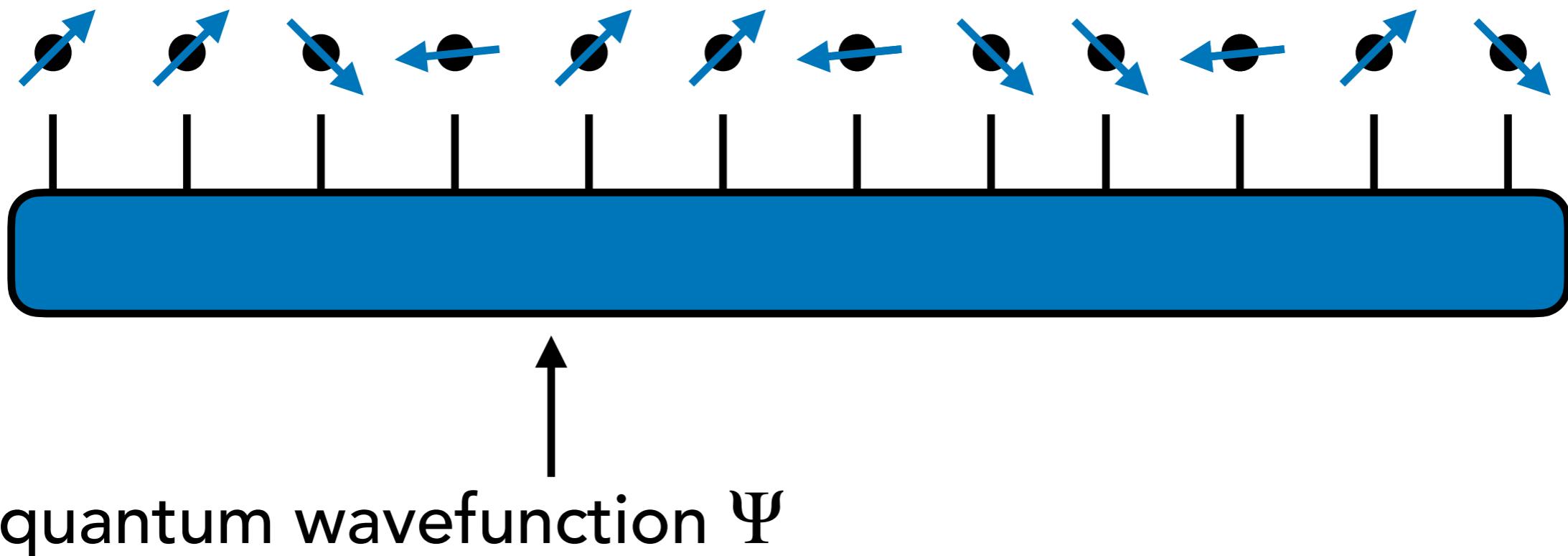
*What is a tensor?*

*Why are they challenging?*

# Classical Methods for Quantum Systems

How hard is quantum mechanics?

Consider  $n$  quantum spins or qubits



$2^n$  parameters inside  
exponentially hard to store & manipulate

# Classical Methods for Quantum Systems

What's going on at Flatiron Institute  
Center for Computational Quantum Physics (CCQ)  
in New York?



# Classical Methods for Quantum Systems

Developing ways to break through the  $2^n$  exponential quantum wall

quantum Monte Carlo

high-order perturbation theory

embedding (DMFT)

GW method

tensor networks

neural quantum states

density functional theory

numerical renormalization group

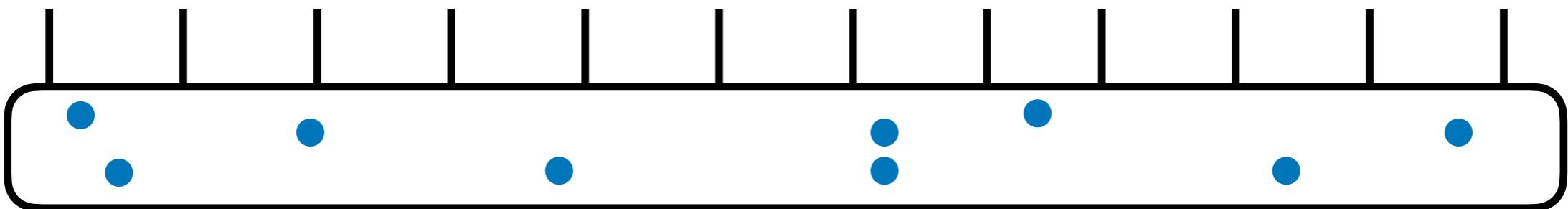
# Classical Methods for Quantum Systems

Developing ways to break through the  $2^n$  exponential quantum wall

## Quantum Monte Carlo



breaks exponential by sampling  
important configurations

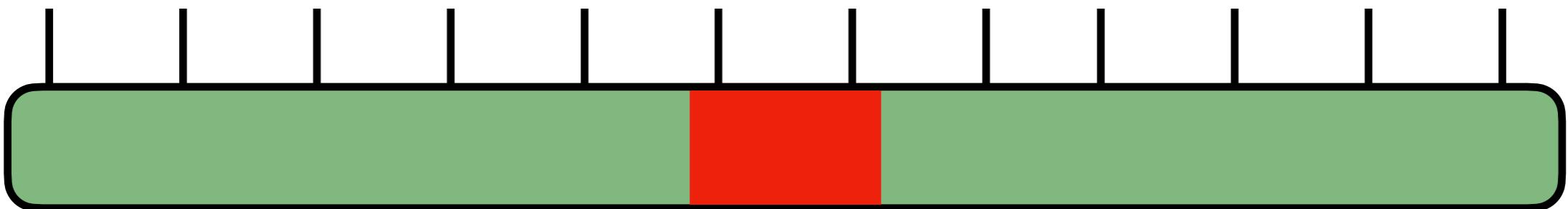


# Classical Methods for Quantum Systems

Developing ways to break through the  $2^n$  exponential quantum wall

Embedding / DMFT 

treats small piece of system  
inside solvable "bath" with mirrored properties



# Classical Methods for Quantum Systems

Last but not least: **tensor networks**

Tensor networks:

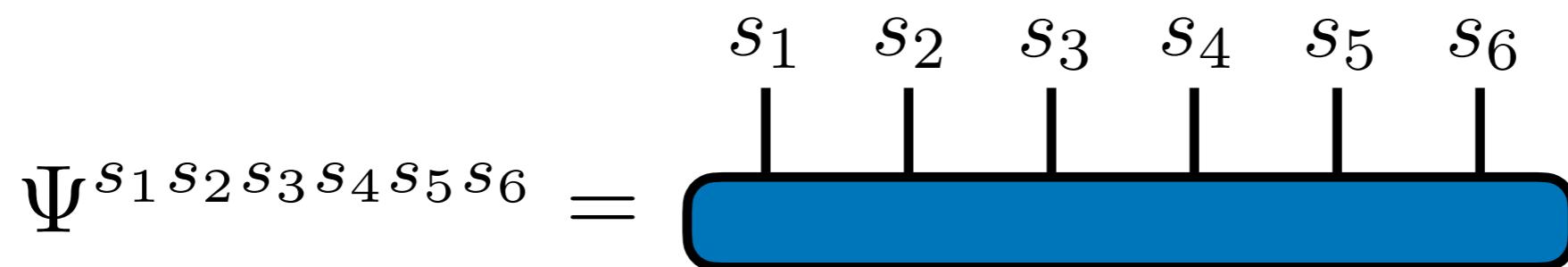
- work directly with **wavefunction**
- use **compression** to store wavefunction
- closely mimic a **quantum computer**

# Classical Methods for Quantum Systems

General wavefunction of n qubits

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{s_1 s_2 s_3 \cdots s_n} \Psi^{s_1 s_2 s_3 \cdots s_n} |s_1 s_2 s_3 \cdots s_n\rangle \quad s_j \in \{0, 1\}$$

Amplitudes form a big tensor!



# Classical Methods for Quantum Systems

What is a tensor?

vector

$$v = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad v_2 = 3$$

matrix

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 7 \\ 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \quad M_{12} = 7$$

order-3  
tensor

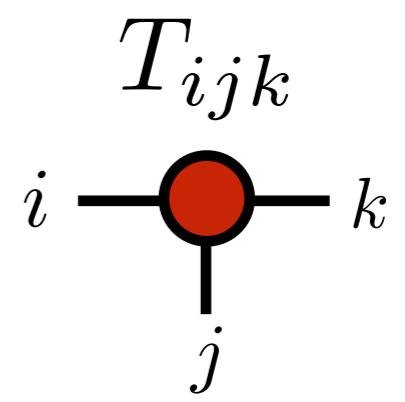
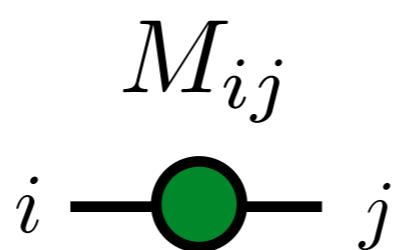
$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & [5 & 7] \\ 1 & [3 & 2] \end{bmatrix} \quad T_{112} = 5$$

# Classical Methods for Quantum Systems

N-index tensor = shape with N lines

$$T^{s_1 s_2 s_3 \cdots s_N} = \begin{array}{c} s_1 \ s_2 \ s_3 \ s_4 \ \cdot \ \cdot \ \cdot \ \cdot \ \cdot \ s_N \\ | \quad | \\ \text{---} \end{array}$$

Low-order examples:

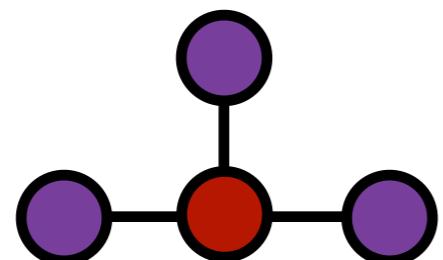


# Tensors – Penrose Diagram Notation

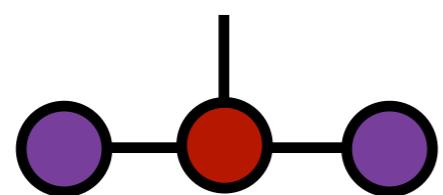
Joining wires means contraction:



$$\sum_j M_{ij} v_j = w_i$$



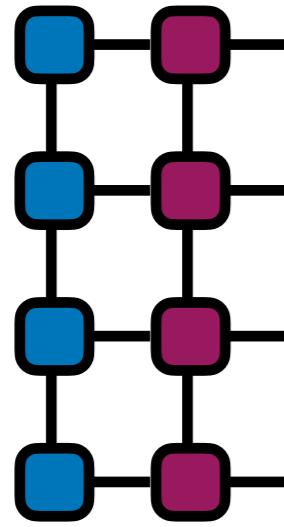
$$\sum_{i,j,k} T^{ijk} v_i v_j v_k$$



$$\sum_{i,k} T^{ijk} v_i v_k = z^j$$

# Tensors – Penrose Diagram Notation

Much simpler than conventional expressions

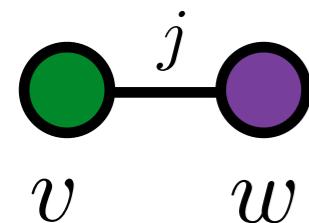

$$= \sum_{\{\alpha\}, \{\beta\}, \{s\}} M_{\alpha_1}^{s_1} M_{\alpha_1, \alpha_2}^{s_2} M_{\alpha_2, \alpha_3}^{s_3} M_{\alpha_3}^{s_4} \\ \cdot W_{\beta_1}^{s_1, t_1} W_{\beta_1, \beta_2}^{s_2, t_2} W_{\beta_2, \beta_3}^{s_3, t_3} W_{\beta_3}^{s_4, t_4}$$

Equally rigorous

When using circuit diagrams, you're using this notation!

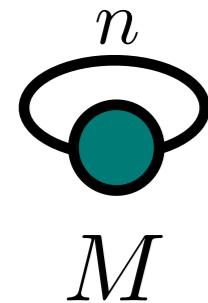
# Tensors – Penrose Diagram Notation

Test your knowledge – describe these operations  
in your own words



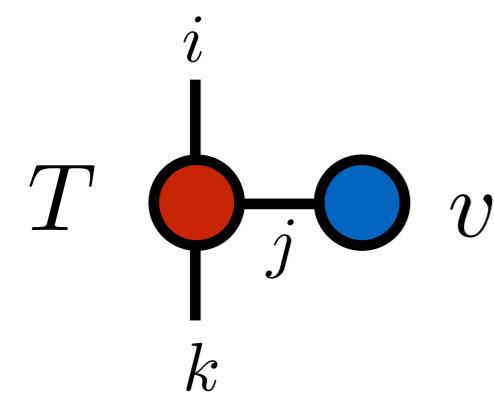
$$\sum_j v_j w_j$$

vector inner product



$$\sum_n M_{nn}$$

trace of a matrix

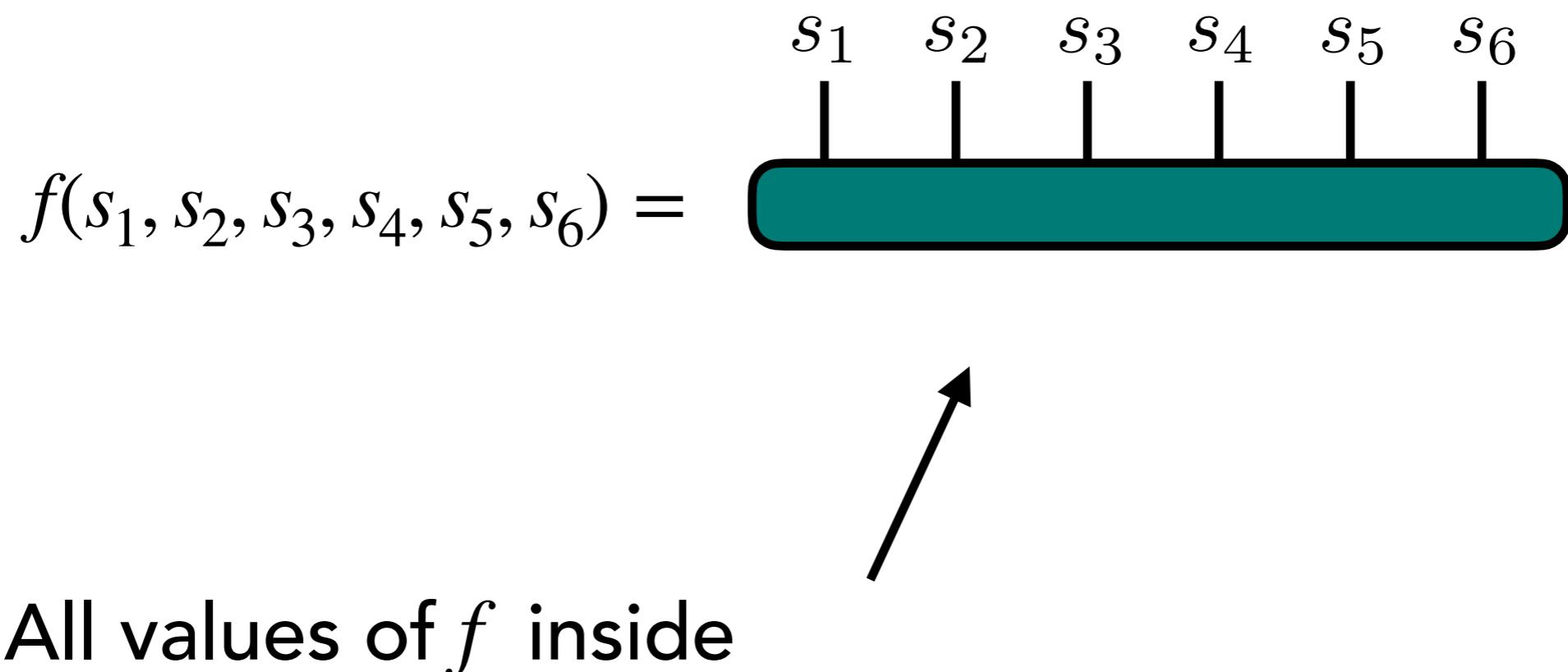


$$\sum_j T_{ijk} v_j = R_{ik}$$

contract order-3  
tensor with vector

# Tensors

Any function of discrete variables can be represented as a tensor



# Tensors

Any function of discrete variables can be represented as a tensor

$$f(1, 2, 2, 2, 1, 2) = \begin{array}{cccccc} 1 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ | & | & | & | & | & | \\ \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} \end{array} = 1.2$$

# Tensors

Any function of discrete variables can be represented as a tensor

$$f(2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 1) = \begin{array}{ccccccc} & 2 & & 2 & & 2 & & 2 \\ & | & & | & & | & & | \\ & 2 & & 2 & & 2 & & 2 \\ & | & & | & & | & & | \\ & 2 & & 2 & & 2 & & 1 \end{array}$$
$$= 0.3$$

# Tensors

Any function of discrete variables can be represented as a tensor

$$f(2, 1, 2, 2, 2, 2) = \boxed{ } = -0.2$$

# Tensors

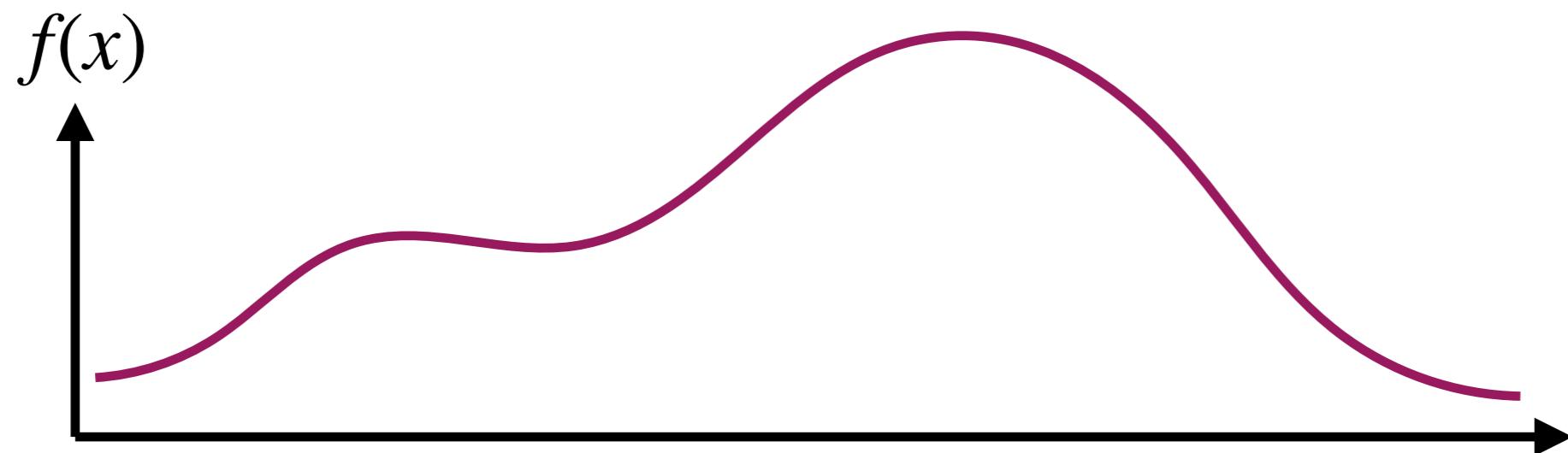
Any function of discrete variables can be represented as a tensor

$$f(2, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2) = \begin{array}{ccccccc} & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ & | & | & | & | & | & | \\ & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} \end{array}$$
$$= 2.7$$

# Tensors

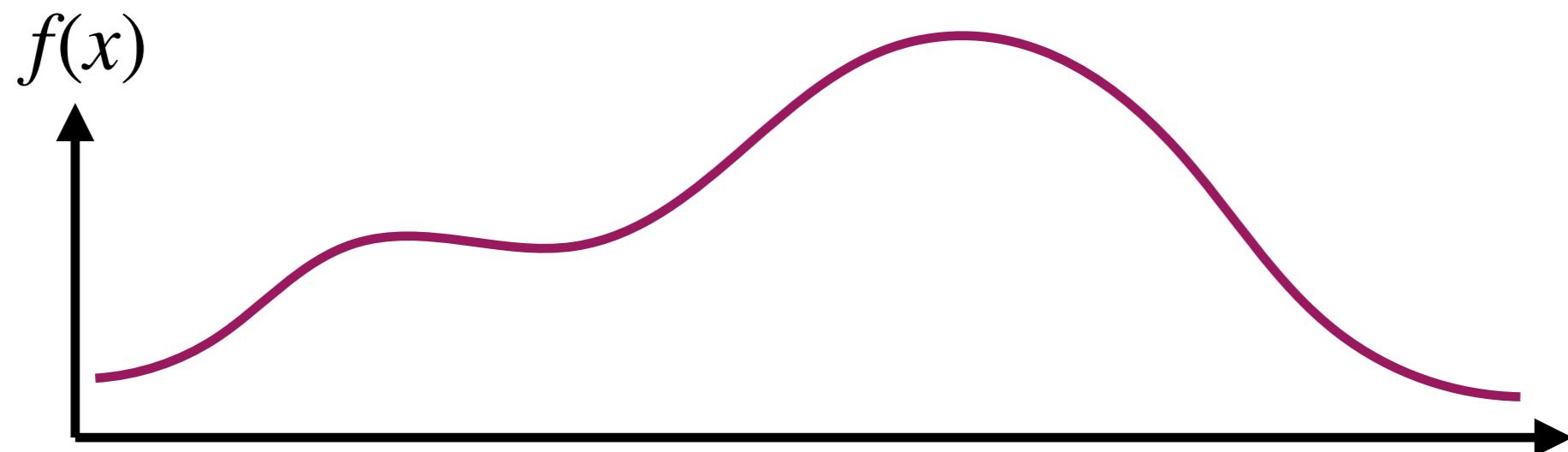
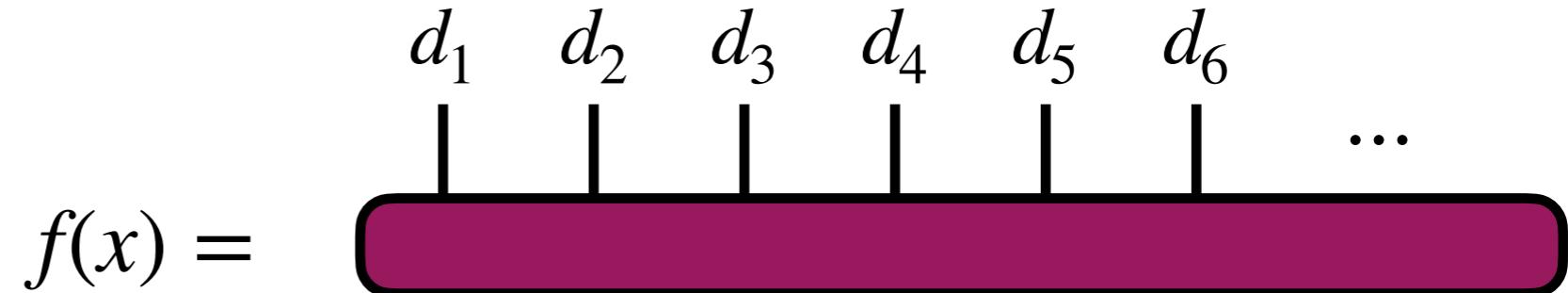
By a simple trick, can encode continuous arguments too

$$f(x) = \begin{matrix} x \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{matrix}$$



# Tensors

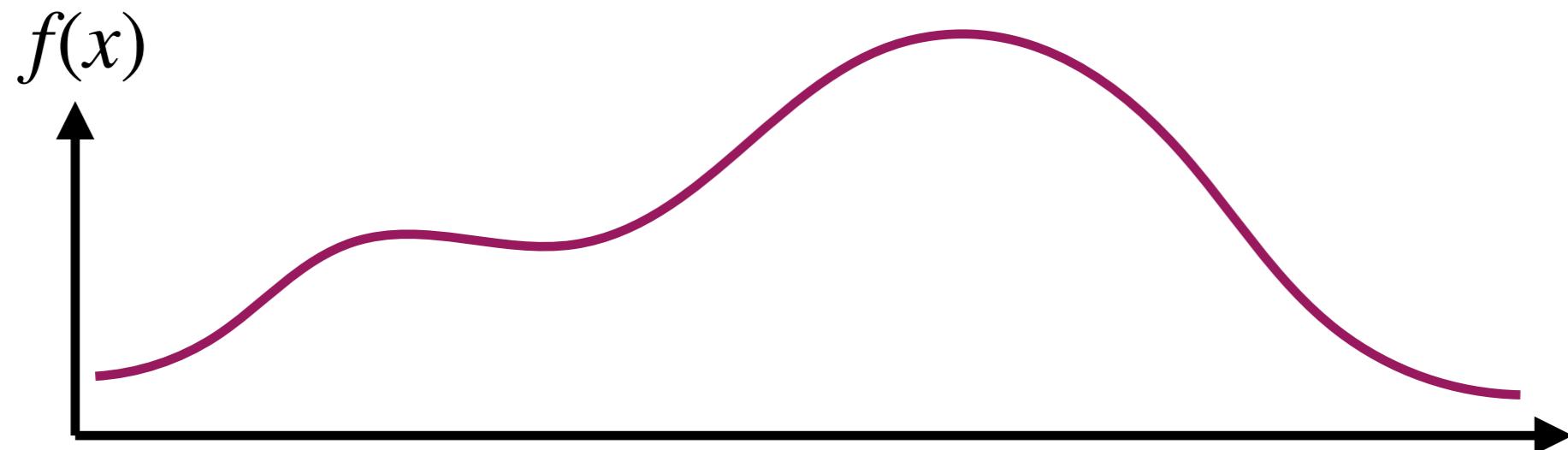
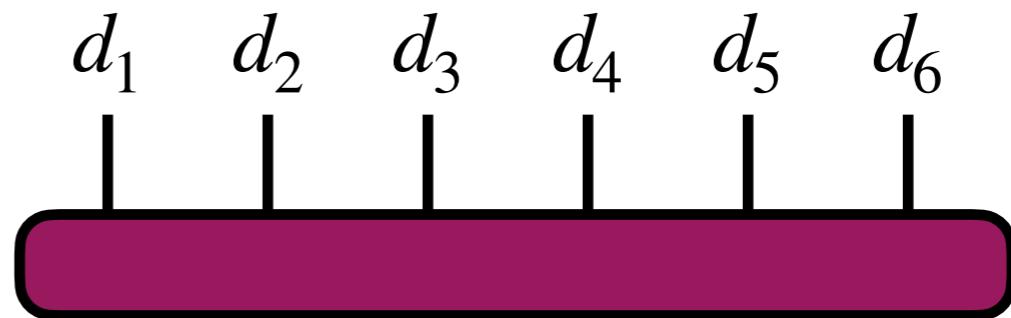
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# Tensors

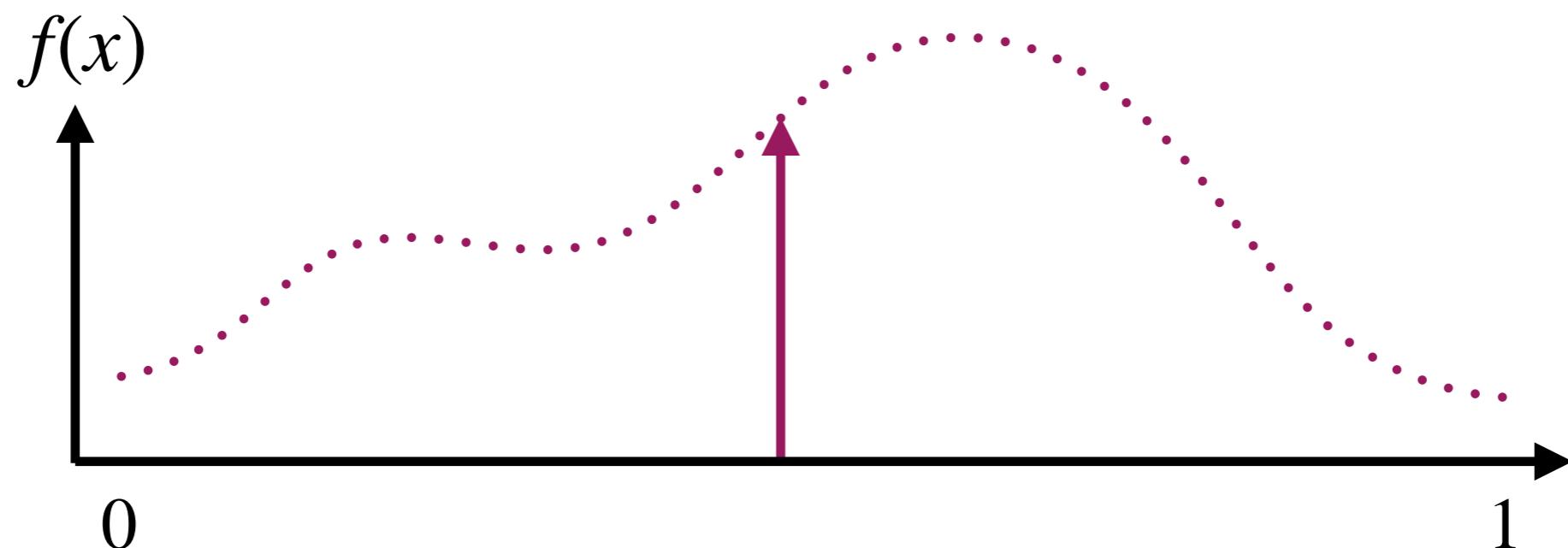
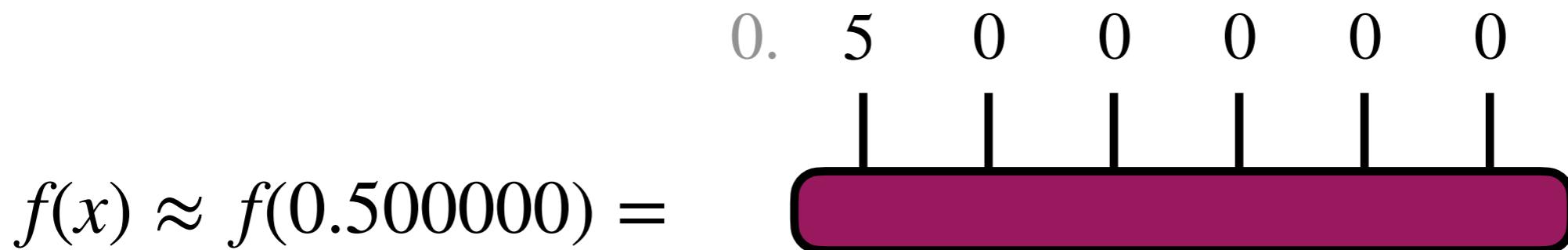
By a simple trick, can encode continuous arguments too

$$f(x) \approx f(0.d_1d_2d_3d_4d_5d_6) =$$



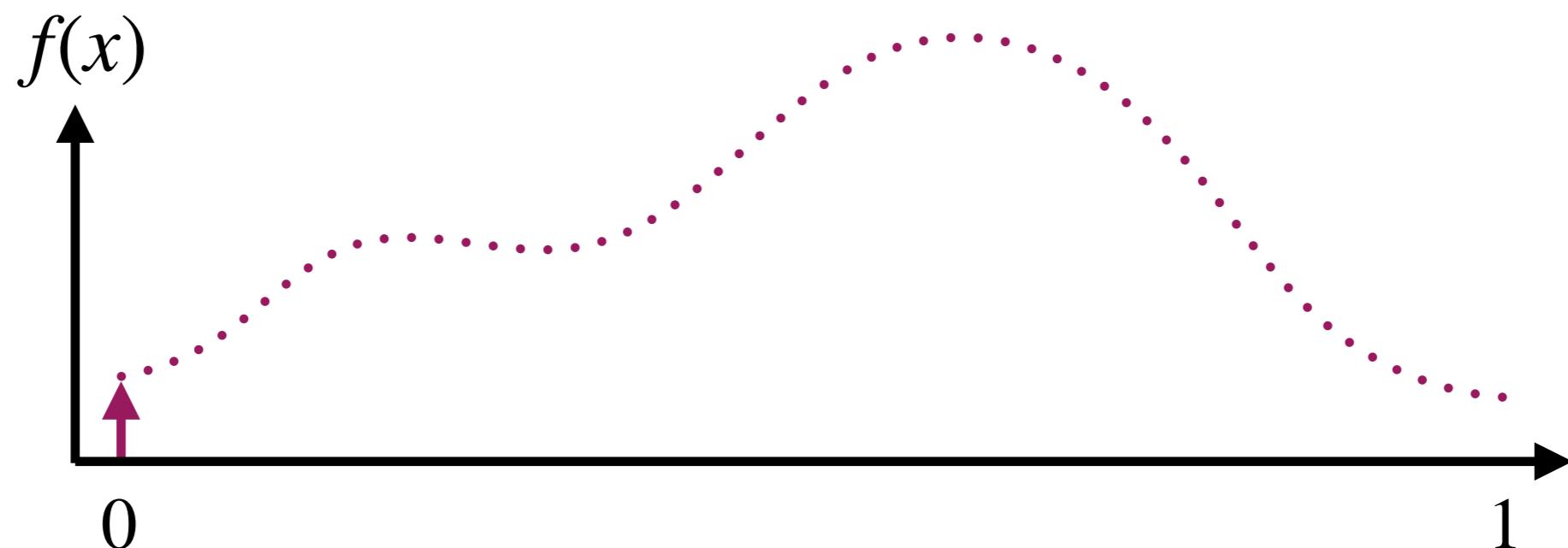
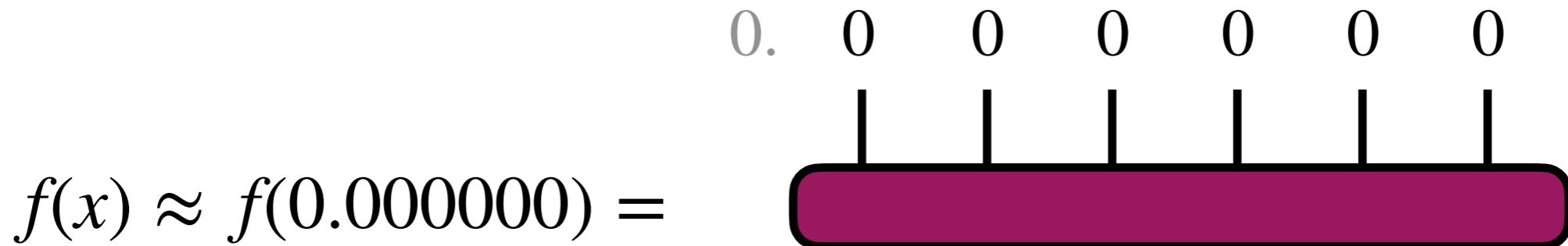
# Why Tensors?

By a simple trick, can encode continuous arguments too



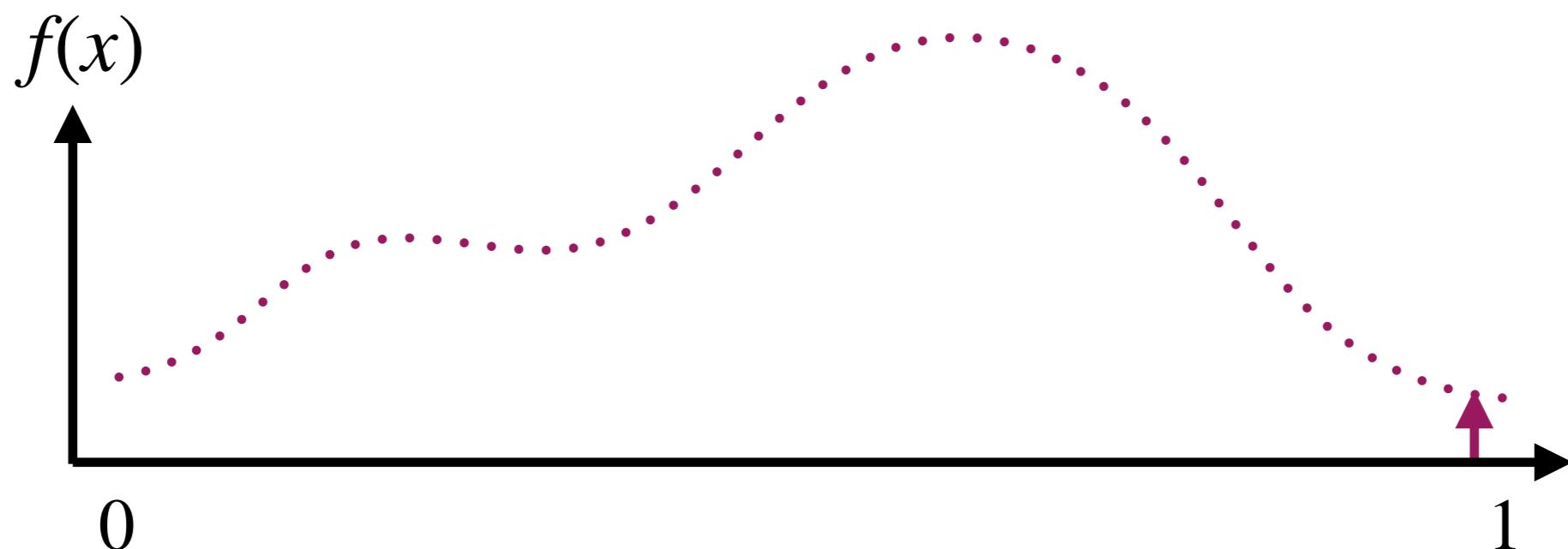
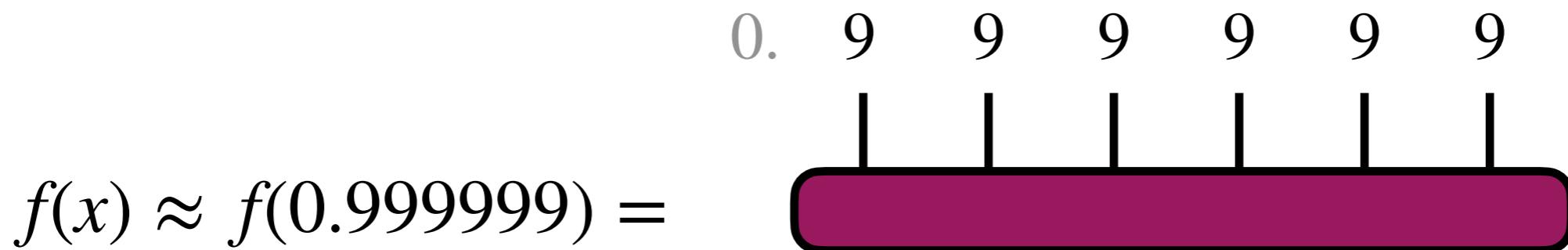
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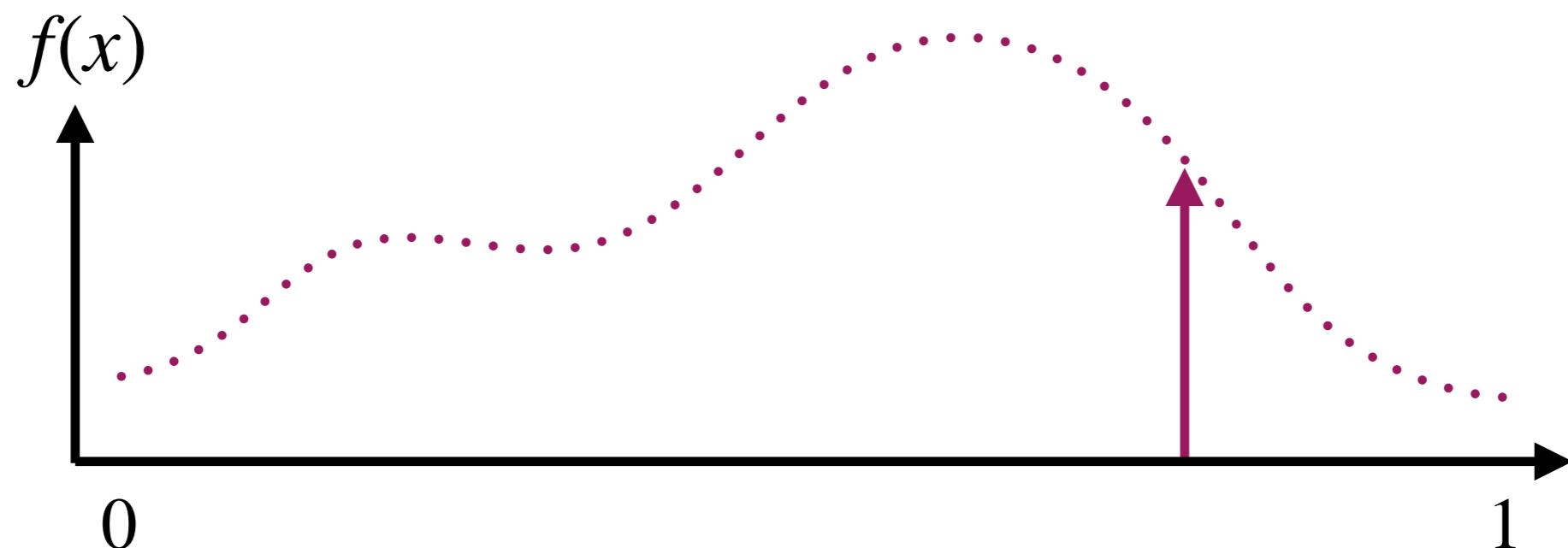
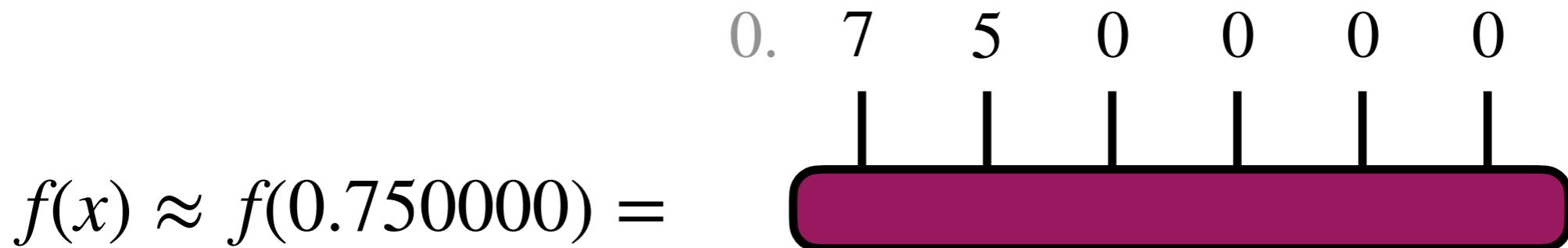
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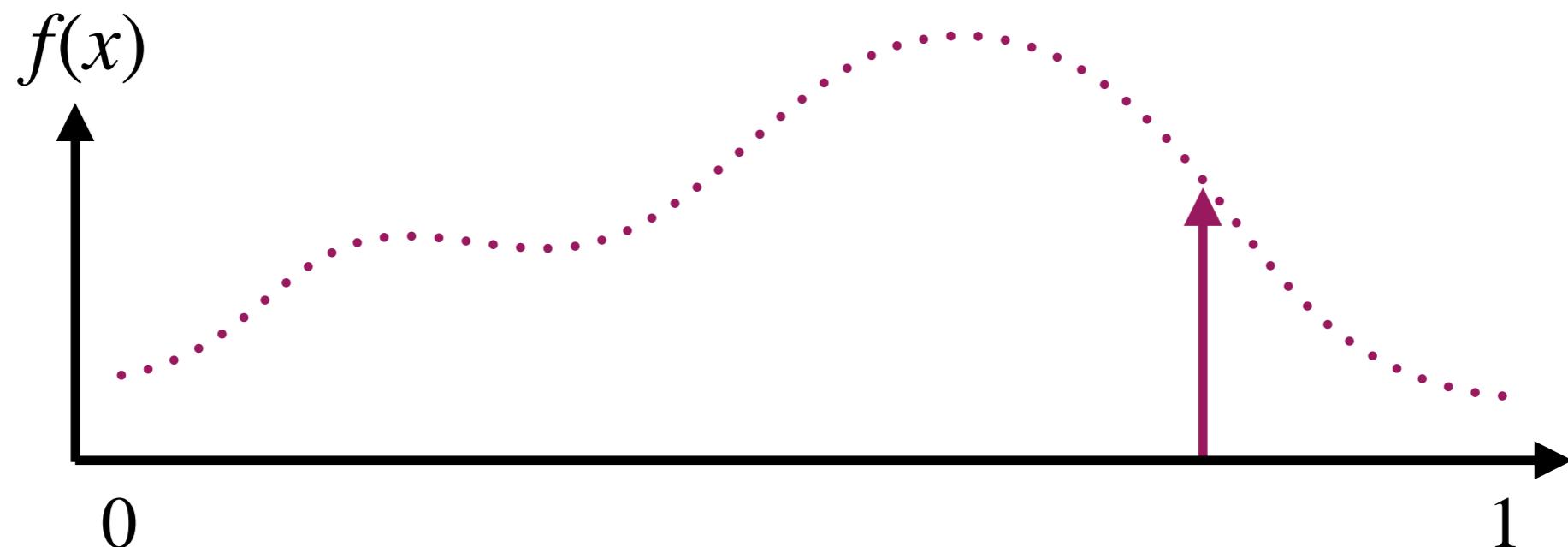
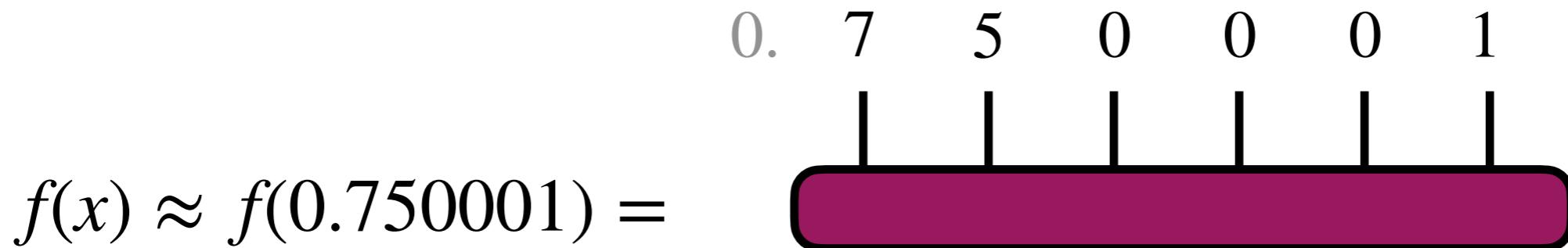
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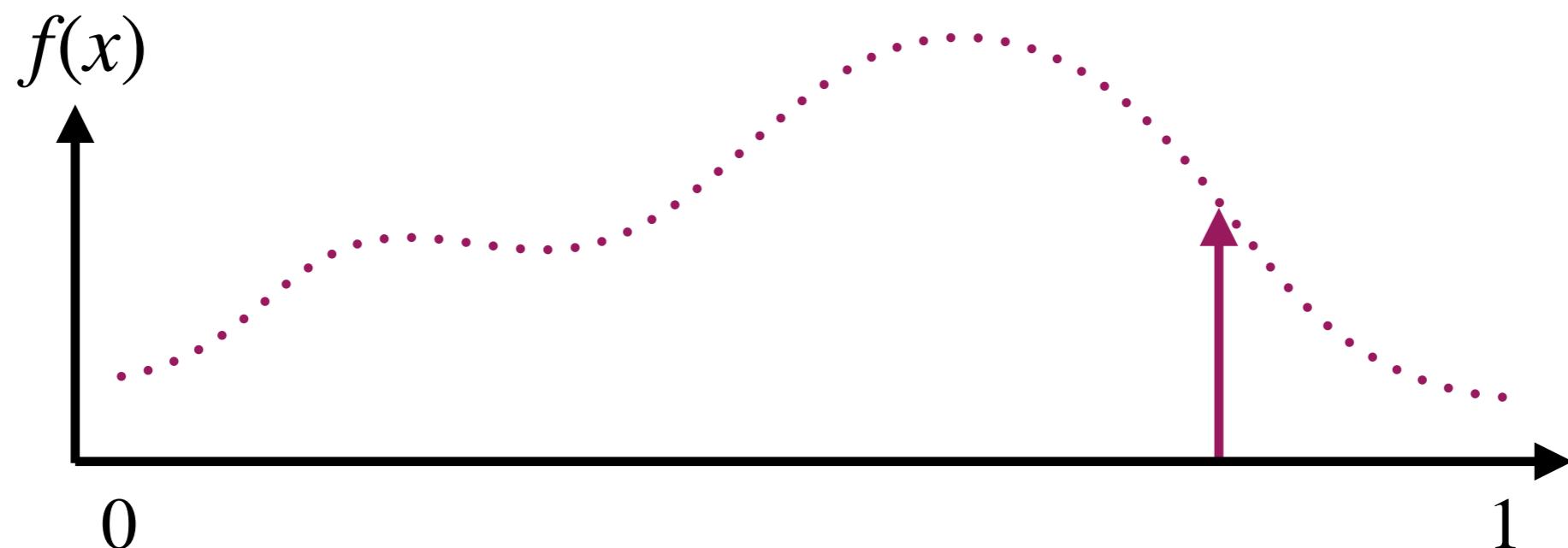
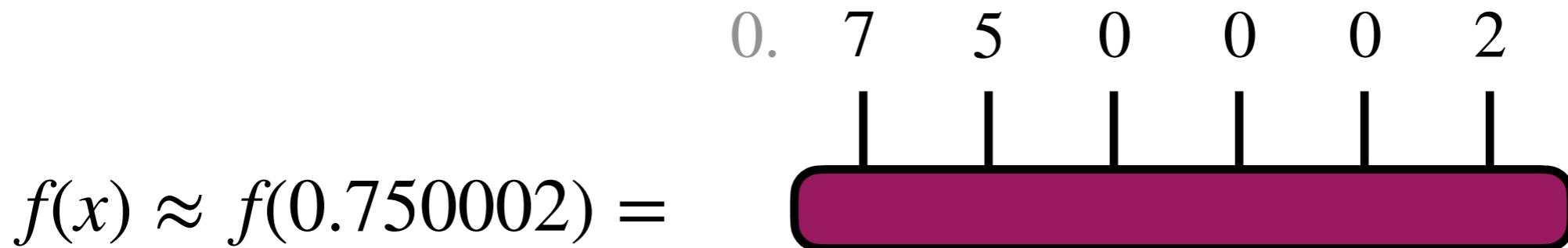
# Why Tensors?

By a simple trick, can encode  
continuous arguments too



# Why Tensors?

By a simple trick, can encode  
continuous arguments too



# Classical Methods for Quantum Systems

N-index tensor **exponential** to store

$$T^{s_1 s_2 s_3 \cdots s_N} = \begin{array}{ccccccccc} & s_1 & s_2 & s_3 & s_4 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & s_N \\ & | & | & | & | & | & | & | & | & | \end{array} \text{ (A light gray horizontal cylinder with vertical indices $s_1$ through $s_N$ at its ends.)}$$

Tensor version of "many-body problem"

$$|\Psi\rangle = \begin{array}{ccccccccc} & \uparrow & \uparrow & \downarrow & \leftarrow & \uparrow & \downarrow & \leftarrow & \uparrow \\ & | & | & | & | & | & | & | & | \end{array} \text{ (A blue horizontal cylinder with vertical indices and arrows indicating spin up ($\uparrow$) or spin down ($\downarrow$).)}$$

# Curse of Dimensionality

Tensor networks give a way to break the curse

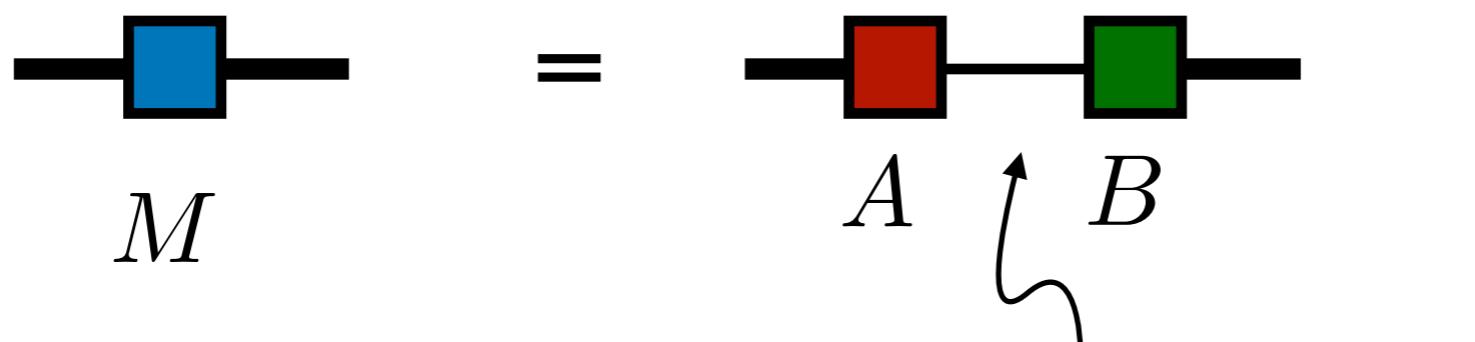
$$T^{s_1 s_2 s_3 \cdots s_N} = \text{[A long horizontal cylinder with vertical ports labeled } s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, \dots, s_N\text{ at each end.]}$$



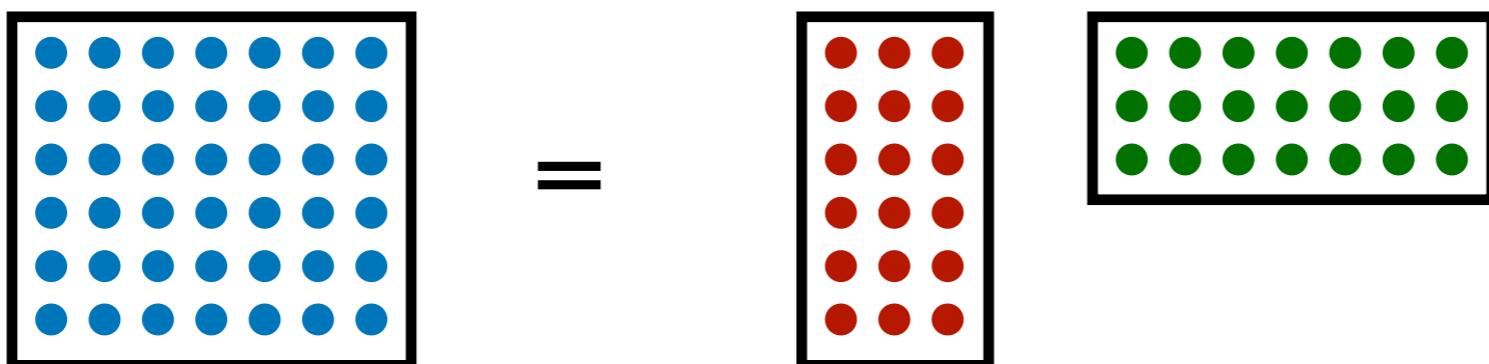
$$T^{s_1 s_2 s_3 \cdots s_N} \approx \text{[A tree diagram where nodes } s_1, s_2, \dots, s_N\text{ are connected by edges. Node } s_1\text{ connects to } s_3\text{ and } s_2\text{. Node } s_3\text{ connects to } s_4\text{ and } s_2\text{. Node } s_2\text{ connects to } s_N\text{ and } s_4\text{. Node } s_4\text{ connects to a dot. A dotted line continues from the dot to node } s_N\text{. All nodes are blue circles with black outlines. Vertical lines connect the nodes to their respective labels } s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, \dots, s_N\text{.]}$$

# Low-rank Structure

Finding low-rank structure solved for matrices



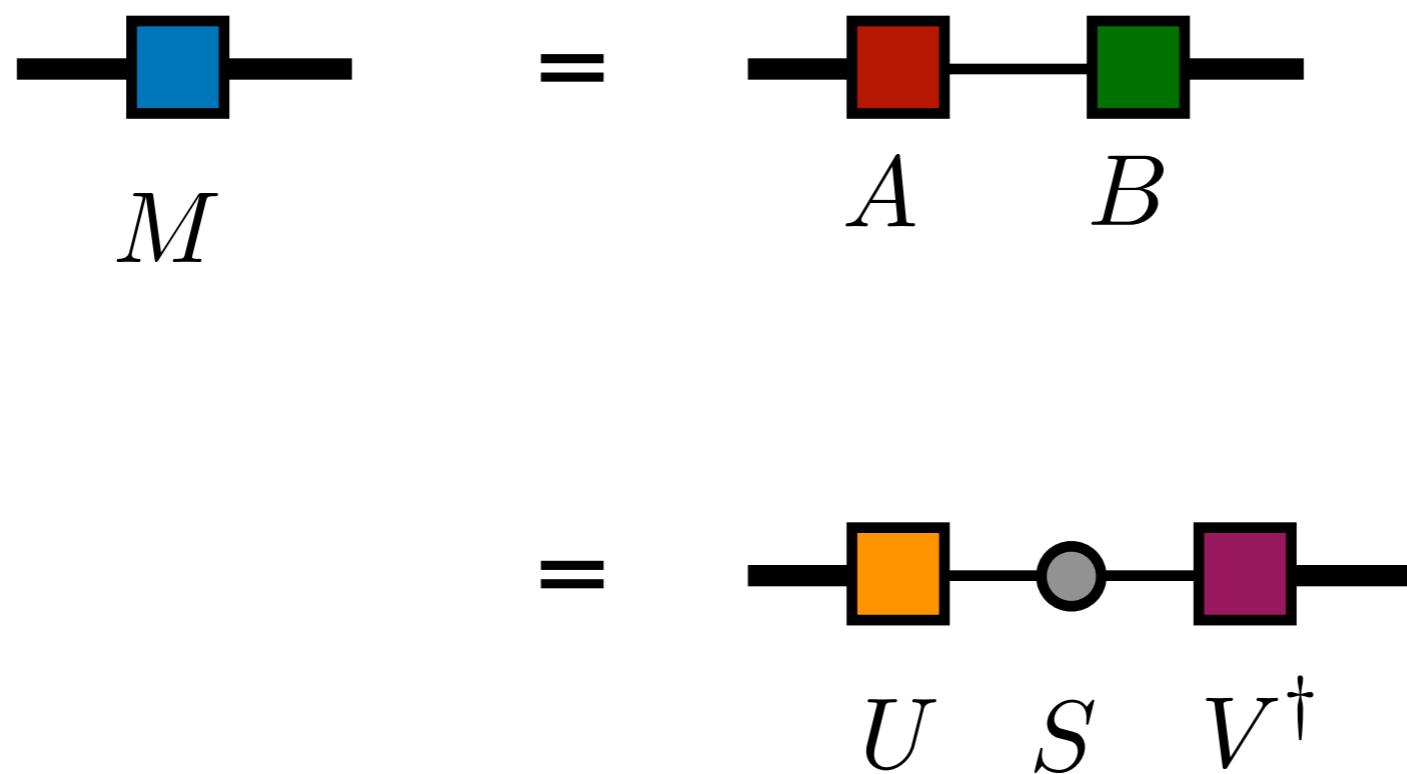
*runs over  $r$  values,  $\text{rank}(M) = r$*



Solved by singular value decomposition (SVD)

# Low-rank Structure

Finding low-rank structure solved for matrices



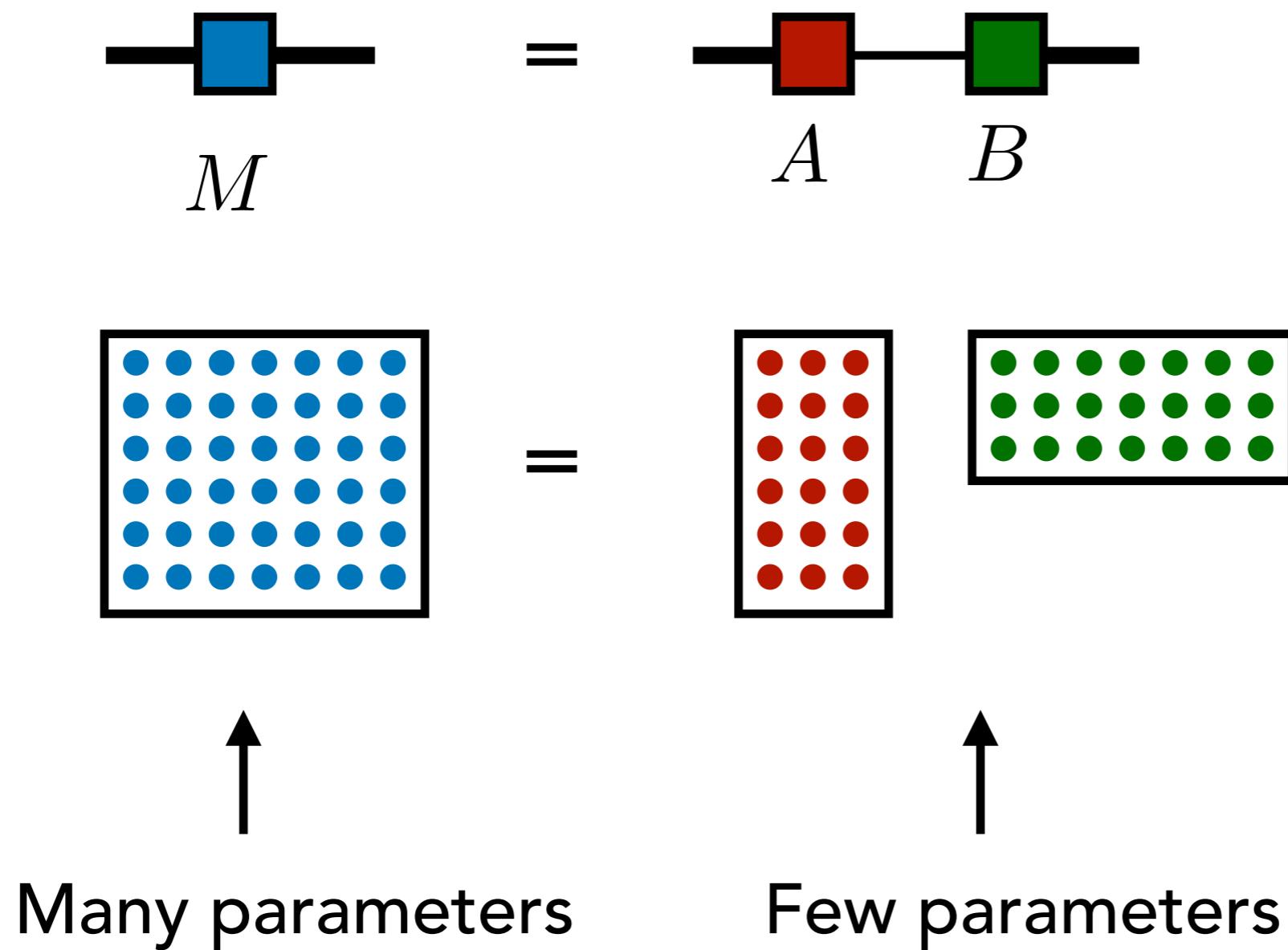
$$A = U\sqrt{S}$$

$$B = \sqrt{S}V^\dagger$$

Solved by singular value decomposition (SVD)

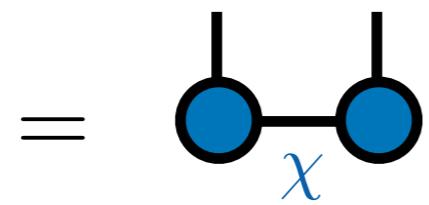
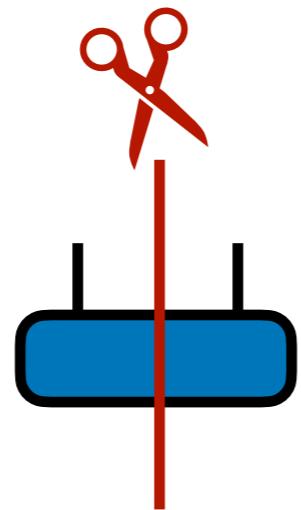
# Low-rank Structure

# Low-rank saves memory and compute



# Classical Methods for Quantum Systems

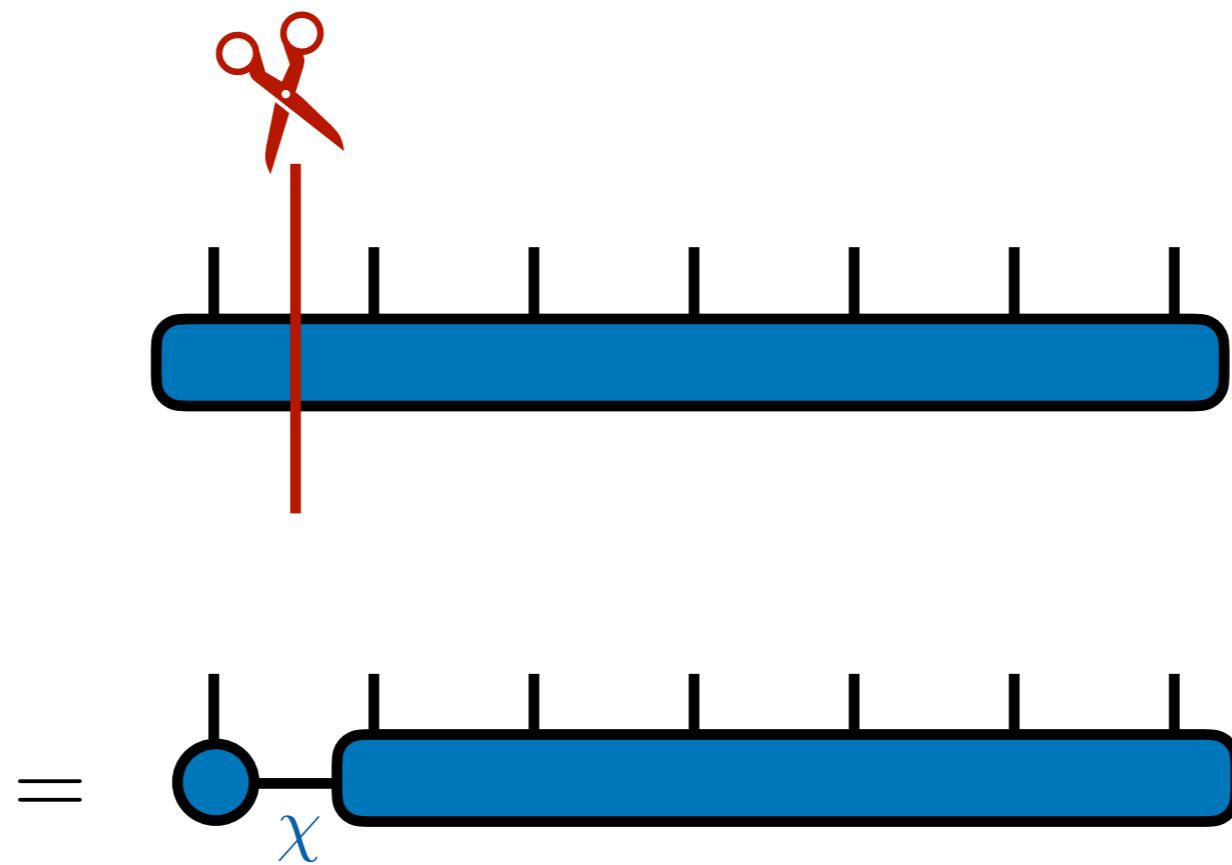
Just as factorizing a matrix reduces cost  
(memory and compute)



$\chi$  is matrix rank

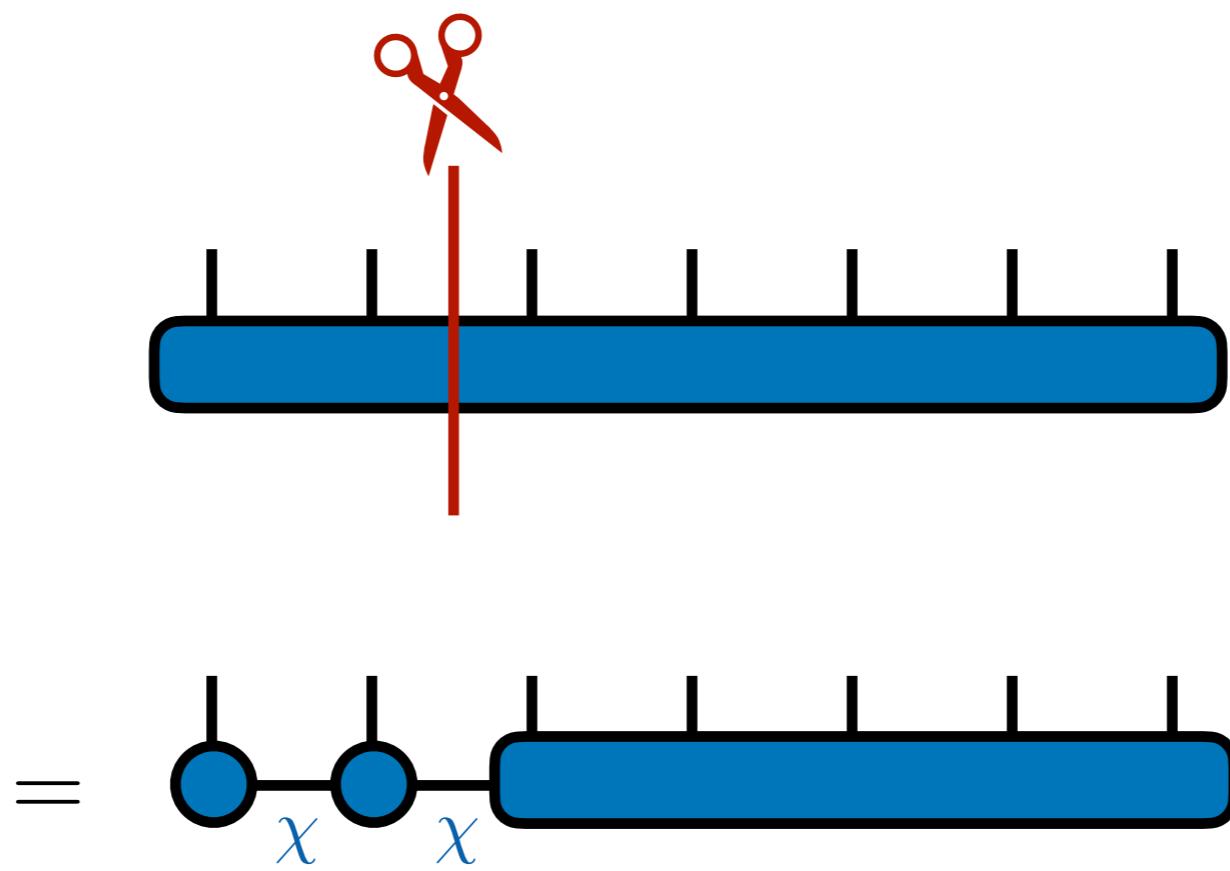
# Classical Methods for Quantum Systems

Can recursively factor (compress) a tensor as well



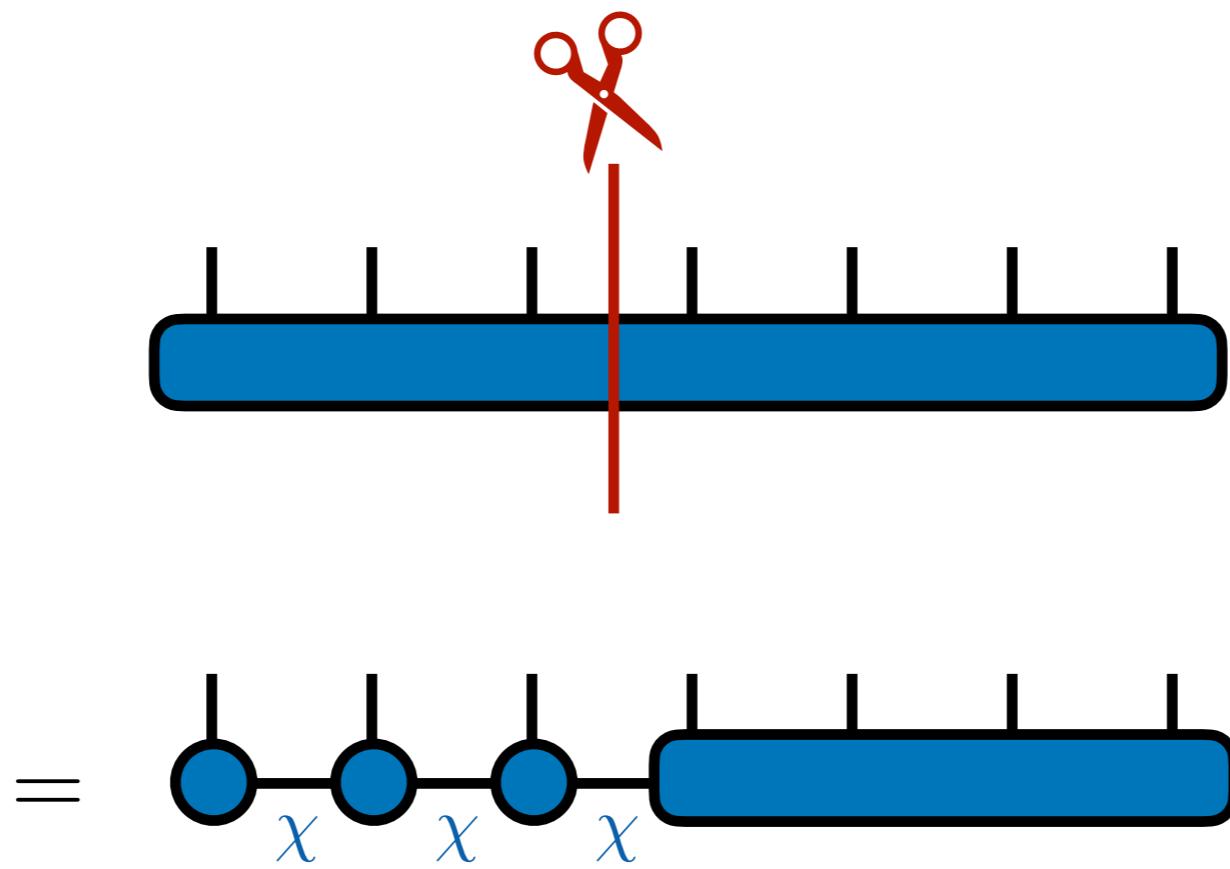
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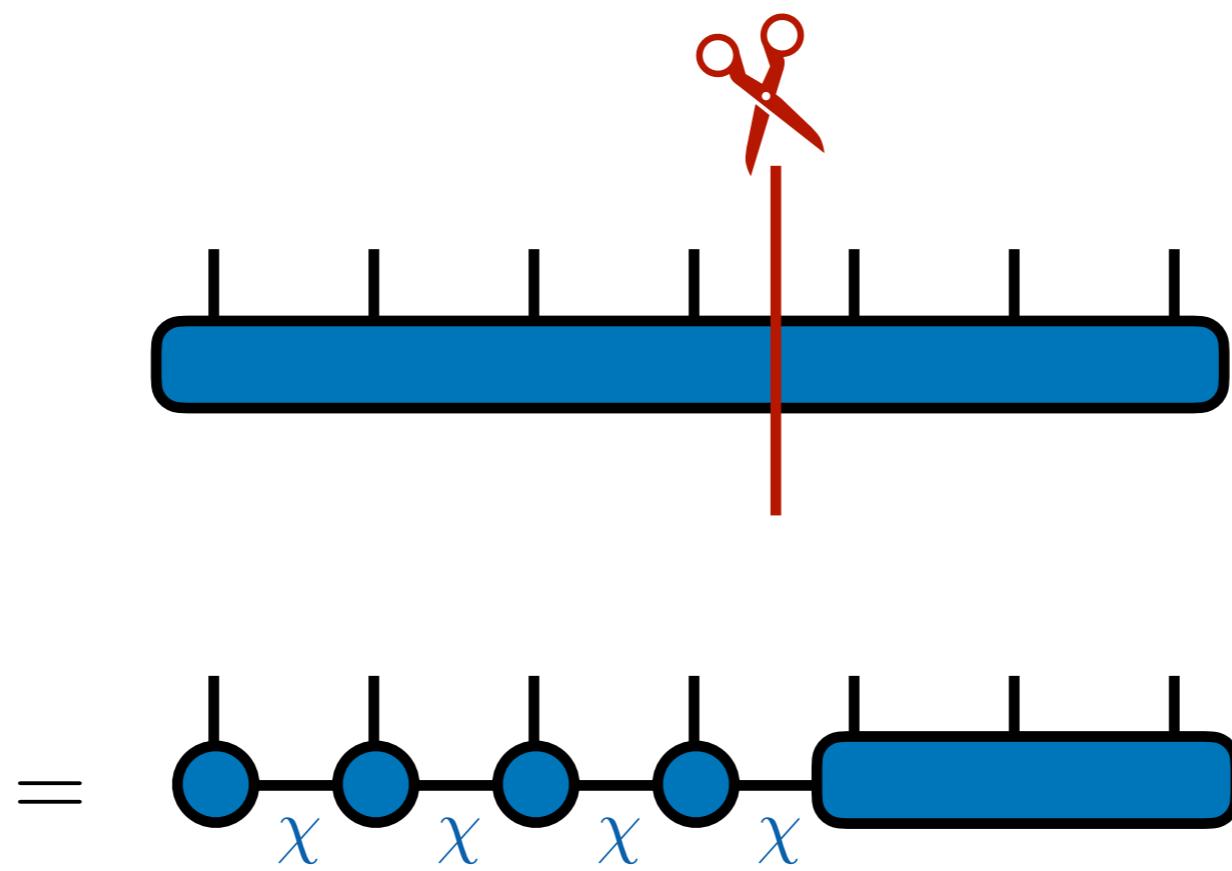
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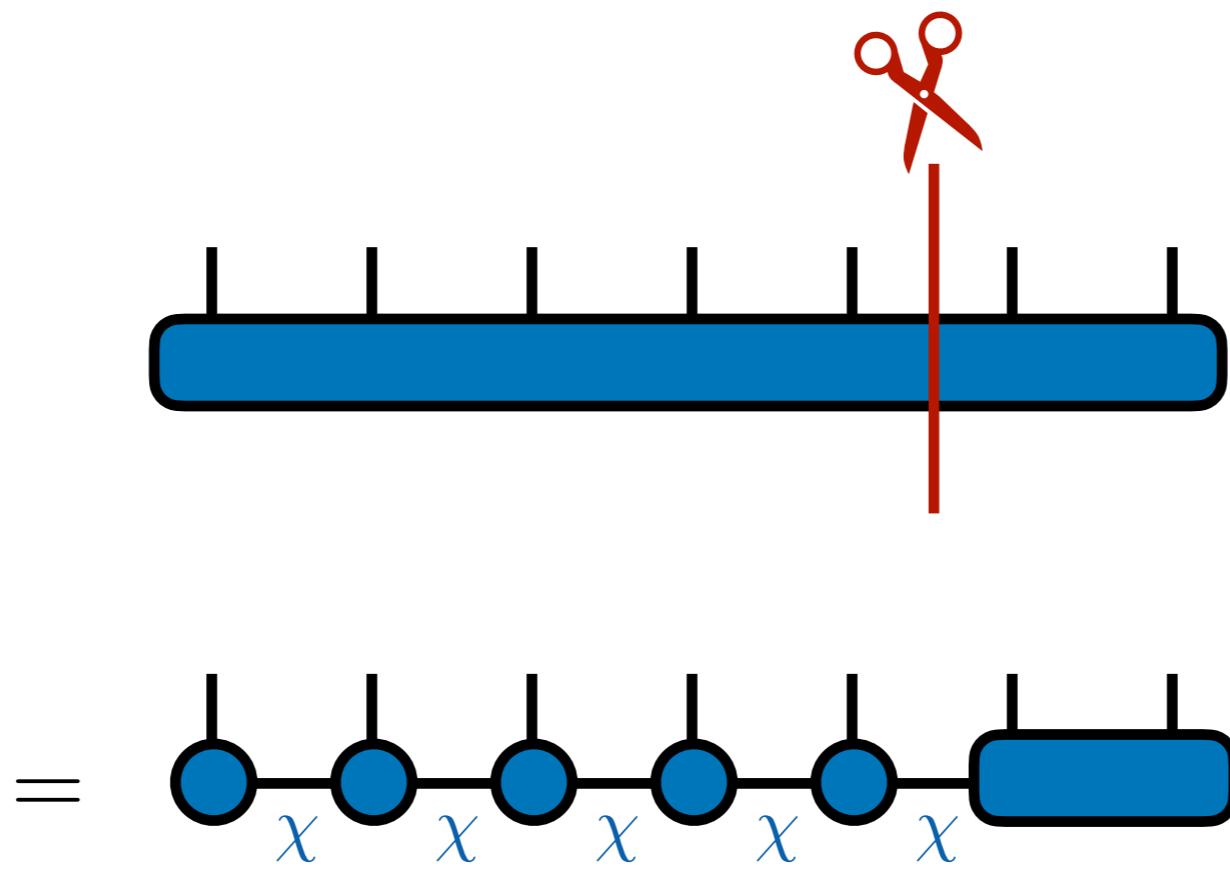
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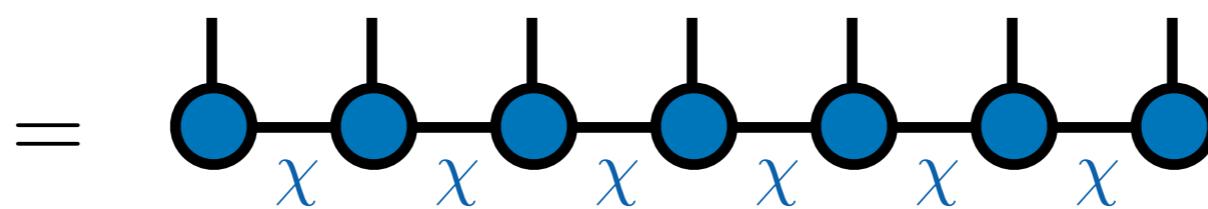
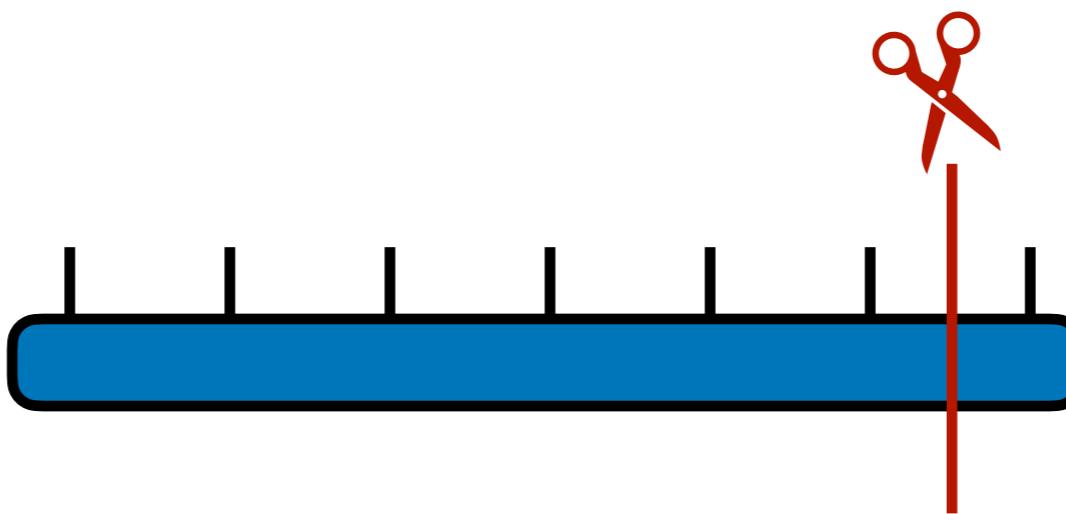
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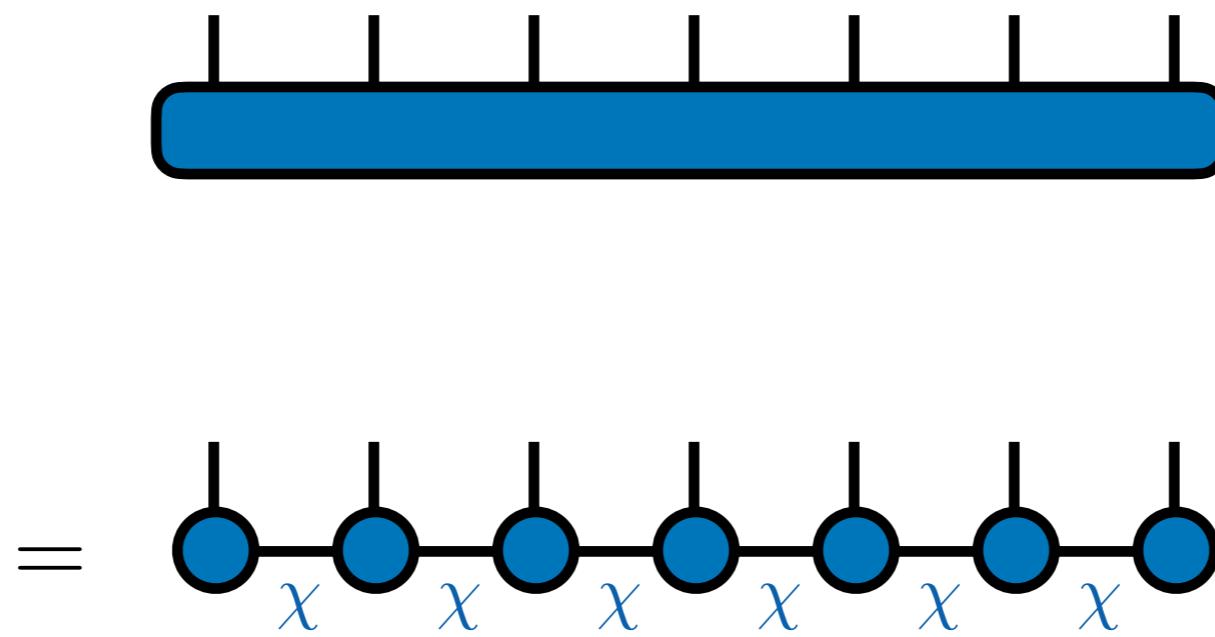
# Classical Methods for Quantum Systems

Can recursively factor (compress) a tensor as well



# Classical Methods for Quantum Systems

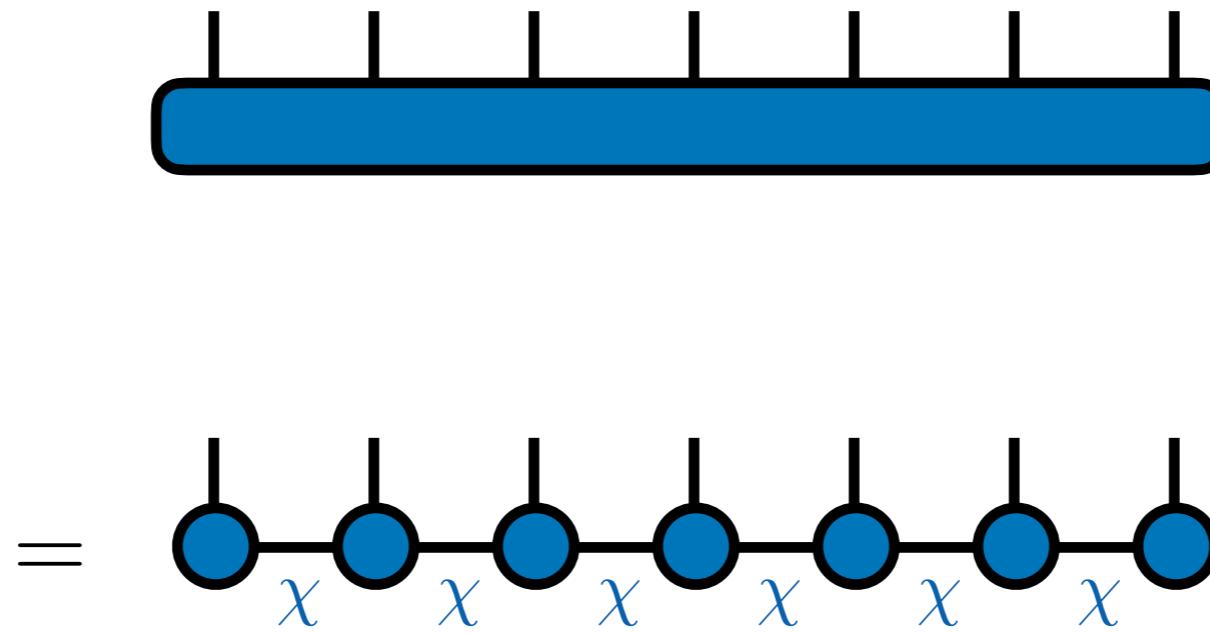
Result is a "matrix product state" (MPS)



If "ranks"  $\chi$  small, save on **memory** and **compute**

# Classical Methods for Quantum Systems

Result is a "matrix product state" (MPS)



Technically, scaling is  $\chi^2$  memory ,  $\chi^3$  compute

# Matrix product state (MPS) tensor network

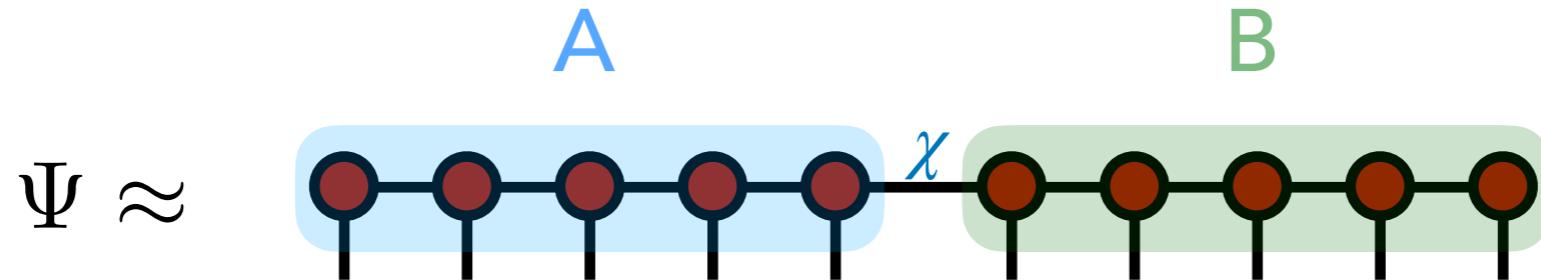


*Can view as multi-SVD of a tensor*



*Or special class or subspace of tensors  
(low-rank subspace)*

# Entanglement of MPS tensor network

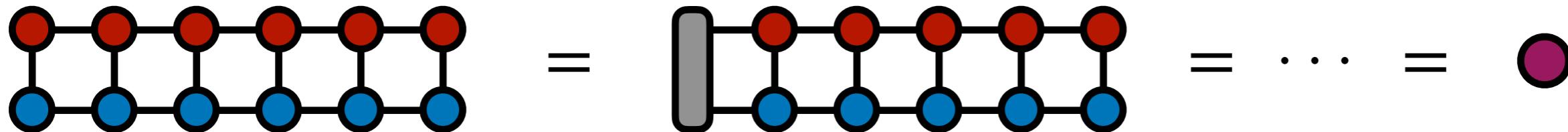


Partition MPS into left (A) and right (B) exactly a rank  $\chi$  matrix factorization

Entanglement bounded by  $\log(\chi)$

MPS efficiently capture moderately-entangled states

## Inner product of two MPS tensors



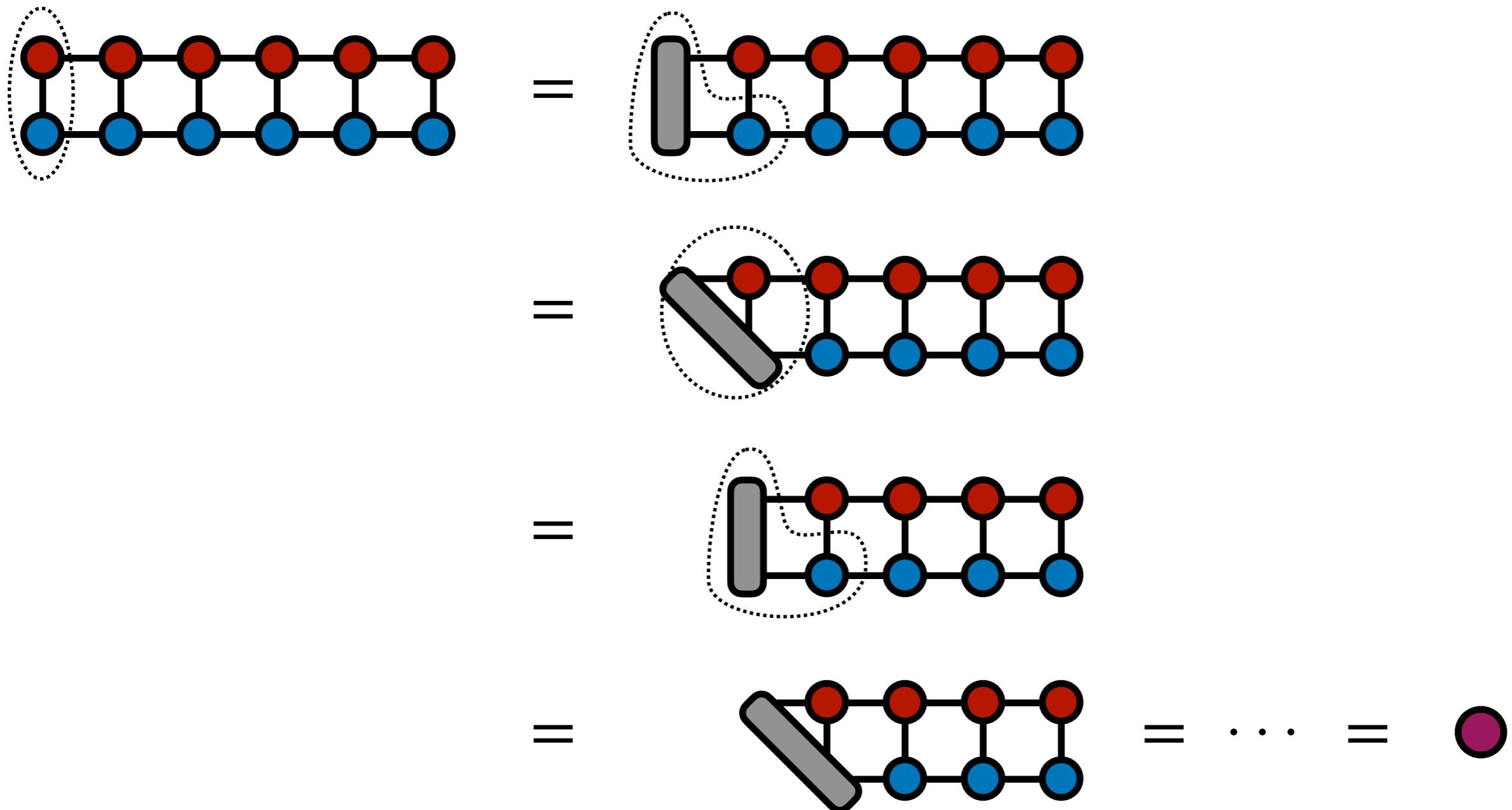
If each MPS represents tensor with 40 indices of dimension 2

Then above algorithm computes dot product of two 'vectors' of a ***trillion*** entries each

Takes  $\sim 10\text{ms}$  for bond dimension  $\chi = 100$

# More detailed tensor network algorithm

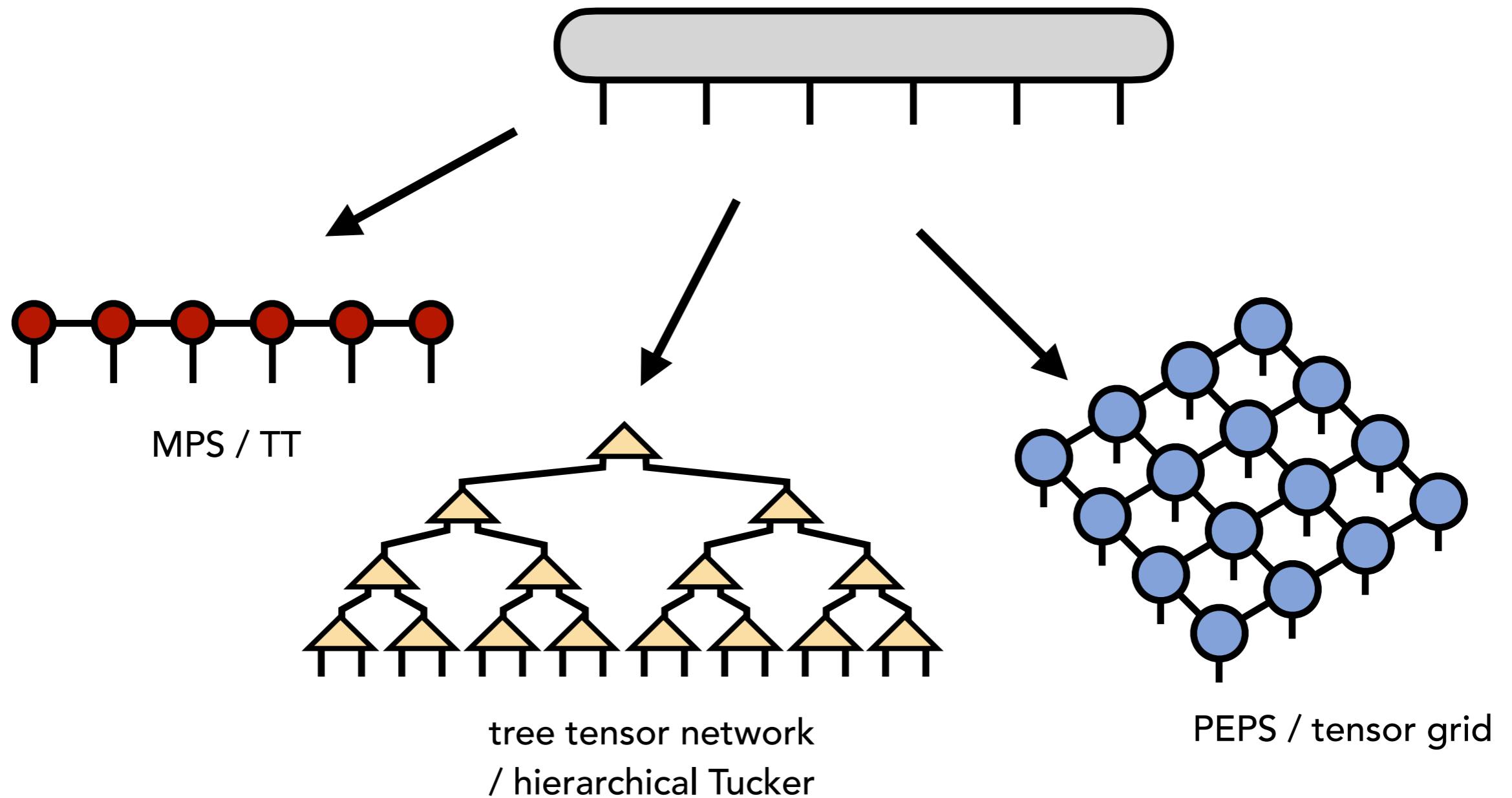
*Inner product of two MPS tensors*



Cost  $\sim \chi^3$ , memory usage  $\sim \chi^2$

# Tensor Networks

There are other tensor networks too,  
with their own algorithms and degrees of expressive power



# More Resources about Tensor Networks

- [TensorNetwork.org](https://tensornetwork.org): list of review articles, video lectures, pages with details of algorithms

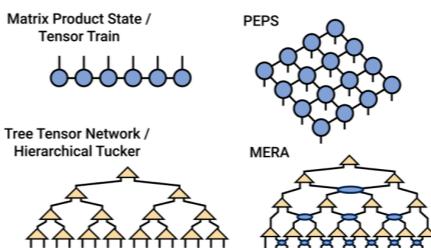


## Welcome to the Tensor Network

This site is a resource for tensor network algorithms, theory, and software.

The entire site is *editable* - just clone the source, edit the Markdown content, and send a pull request on Github. Please see the [contribute](#) page for more information.

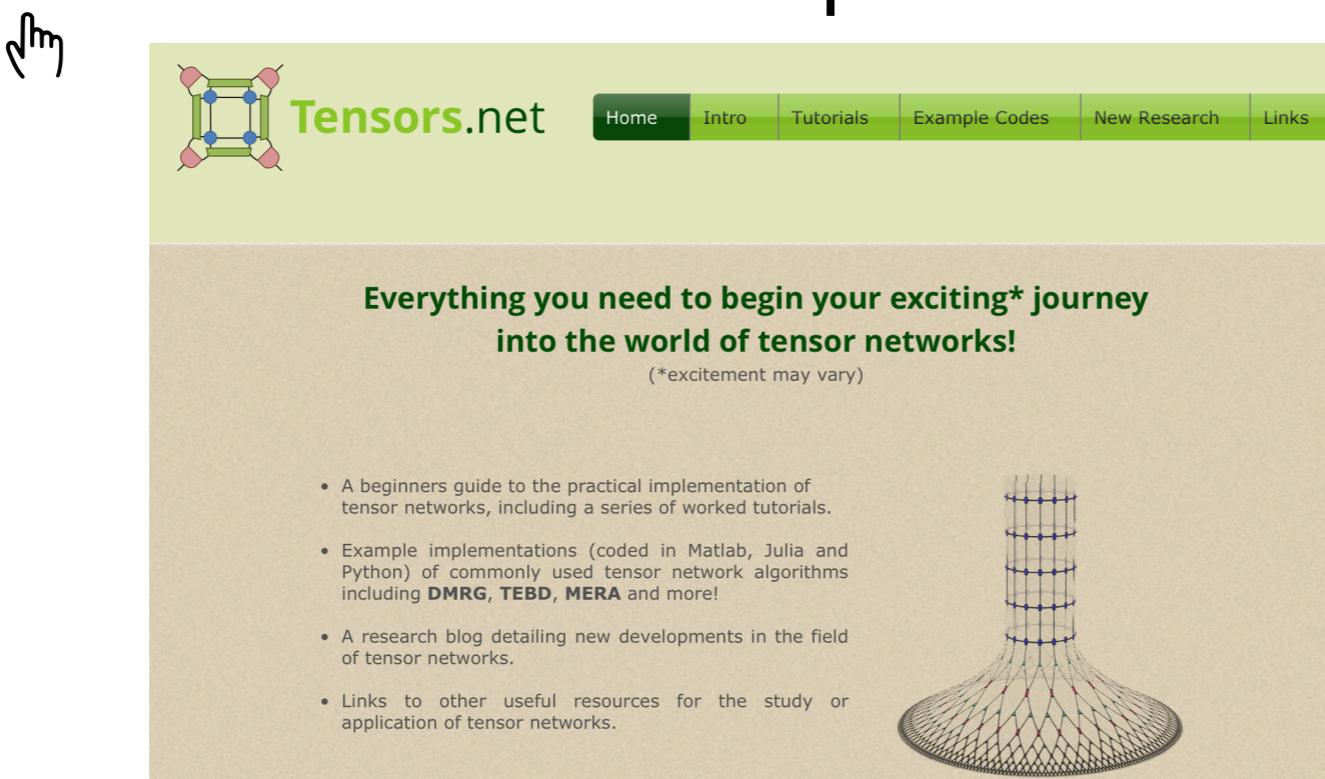
Tensor networks are factorizations of very large tensors into networks of smaller tensors, with applications in applied mathematics, chemistry, physics, machine learning, and many other fields.



### Fundamentals:

- [Tensor Diagram Notation](#)
- [Review Articles & Learning Resources](#)

- [Tensors.net](https://tensors.net): tutorials and sample codes



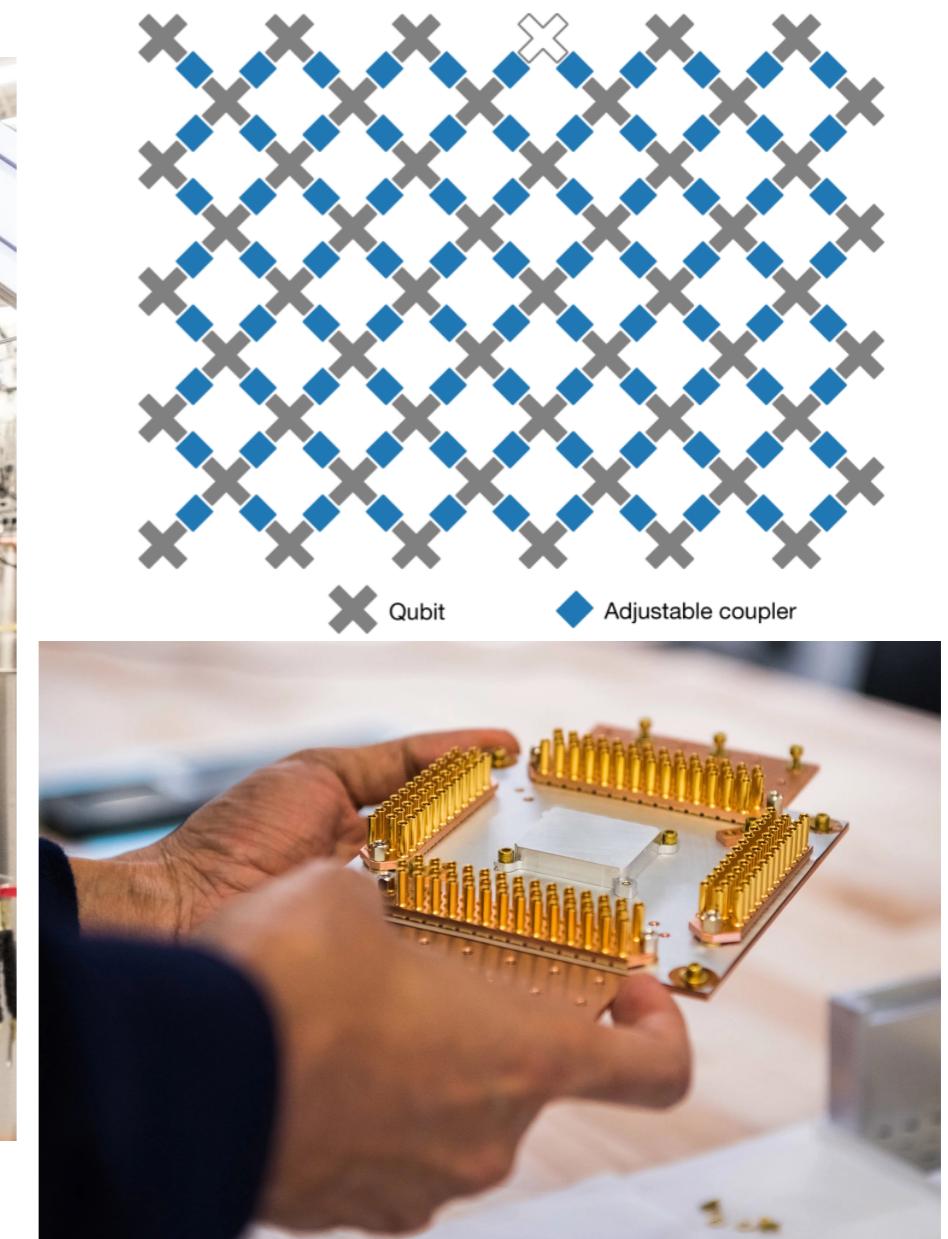
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# **Quantum Computing as a Tensor Network**

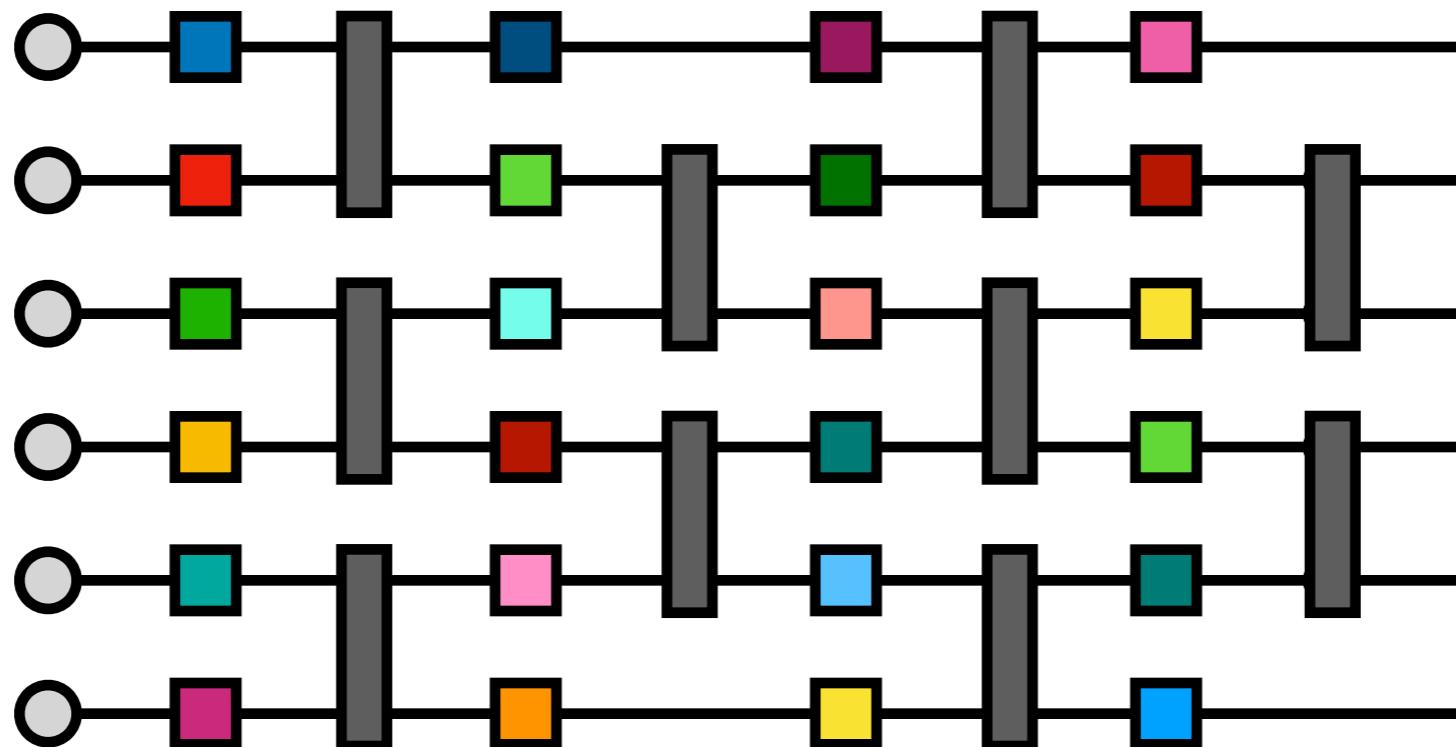
A quantum computer is a machine of quantum bits

Carries out instructions, exploring an exponentially large state space



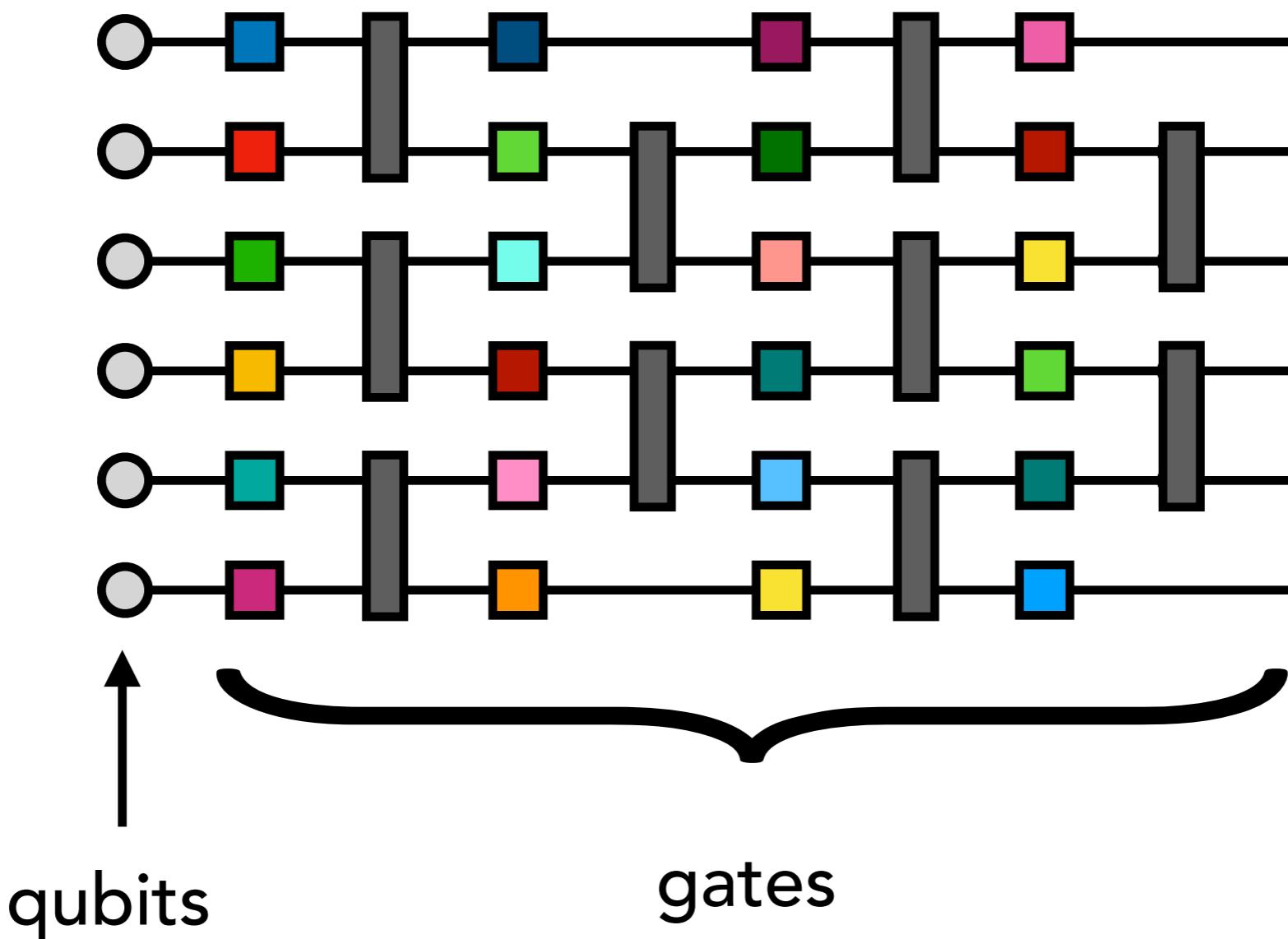
# Quantum Circuits

"Program" for a quantum computer is a  
*quantum circuit*



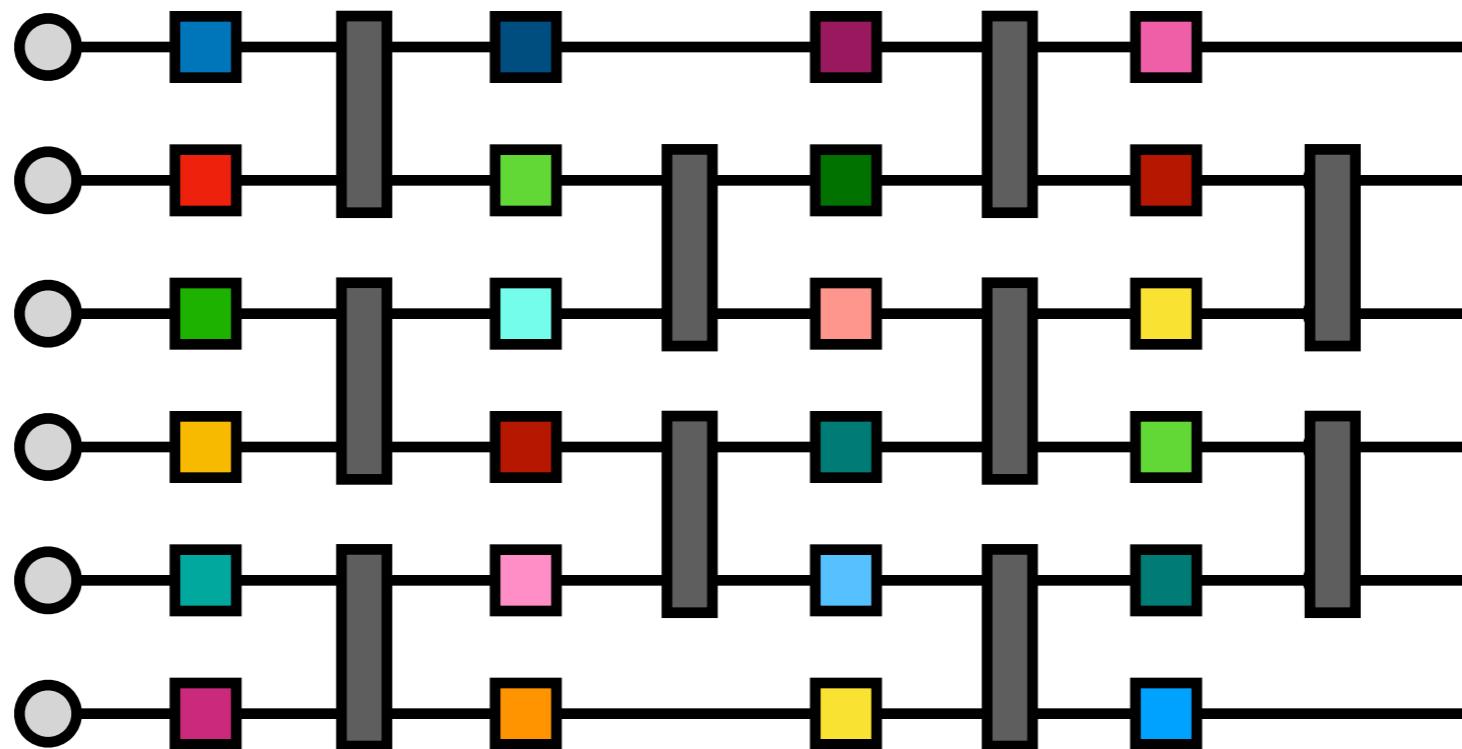
# Quantum Circuits

"Program" for a quantum computer is a  
*quantum circuit*



# Quantum Circuits

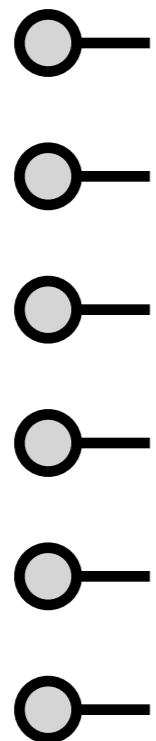
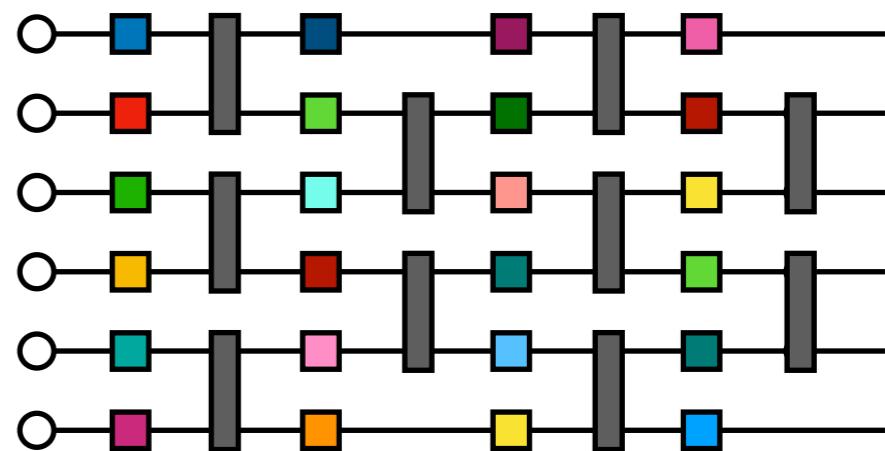
Every quantum circuit in one-to-one correspondence with a tensor network (same diagram)



Let's see how...

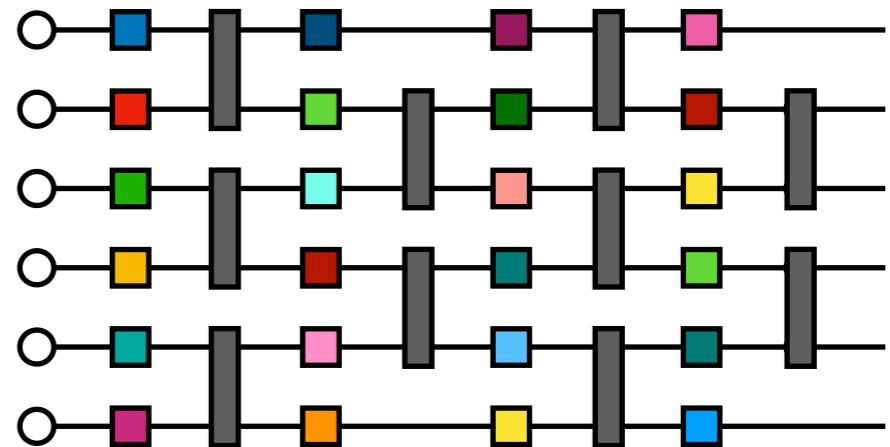
# Quantum Circuits

Vectors representing initial state



$$\text{---} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = |0\rangle$$

# Quantum Circuits



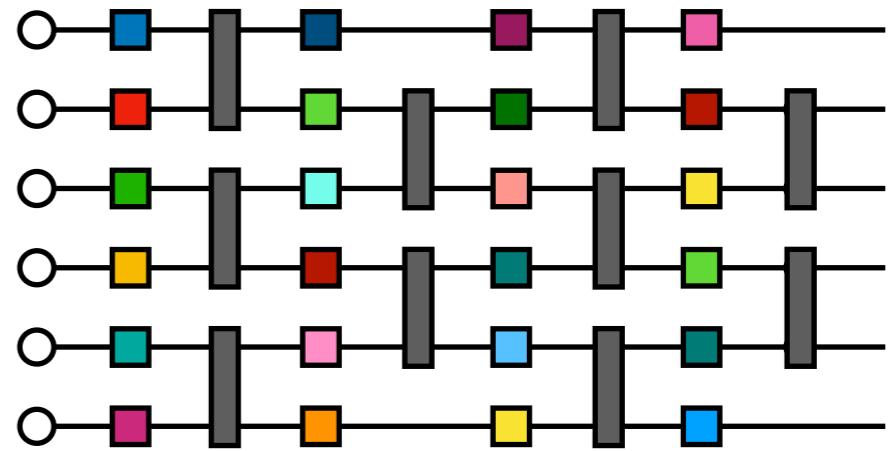
Matrices representing single-qubit gates

$$s \xrightarrow{\text{gate}} s' = U_{ss'}$$

For example, Hadamard gate

$$U = H = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Quantum Circuits



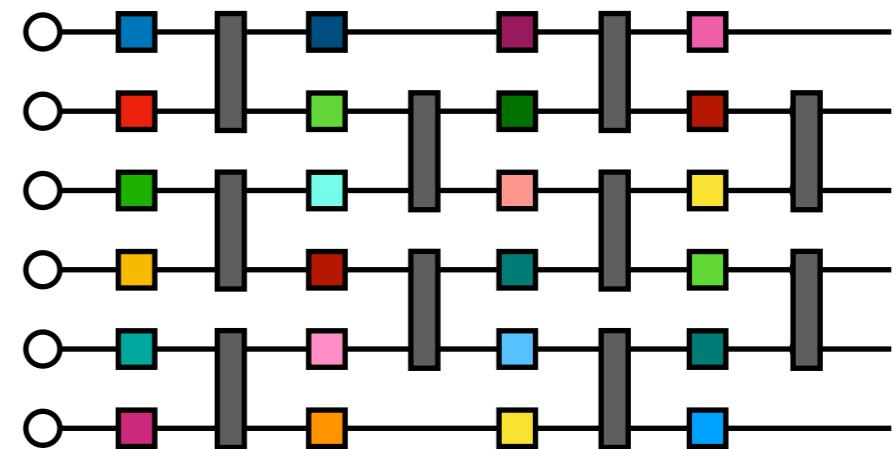
Matrices representing single-qubit gates

$$s \xrightarrow{\text{gate}} s' = U_{ss'}$$

For example, NOT gate

$$U = NOT = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Quantum Circuits



Tensors representing two-qubit gates

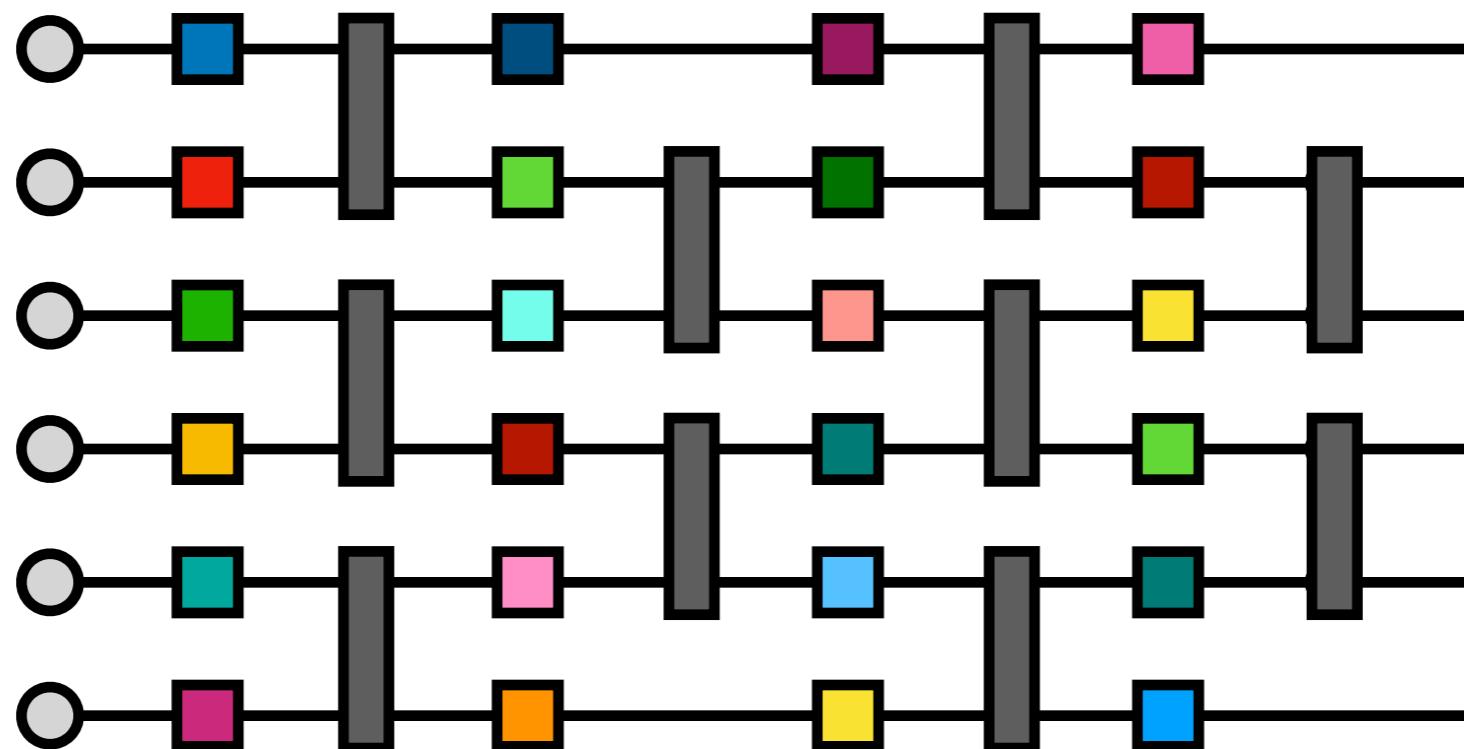
$$\begin{array}{c} s_1 \\ \text{---} \\ s_2 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} s'_1 \\ \text{---} \\ s'_2 \end{array} = U_{s_1 s_2}^{s'_1 s'_2}$$

For example, controlled not (CNOT) gate

$$U = CNOT = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

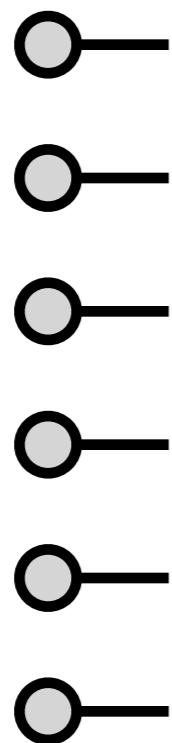
# Quantum Circuits

The state after executing the quantum circuit is given by  
contracting all the tensors



# Quantum Circuits

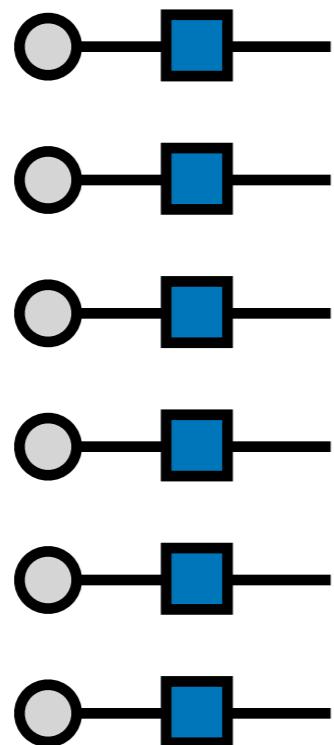
Example:



$$|\Psi\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}_3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}_4 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}_5 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}_6$$

# Quantum Circuits

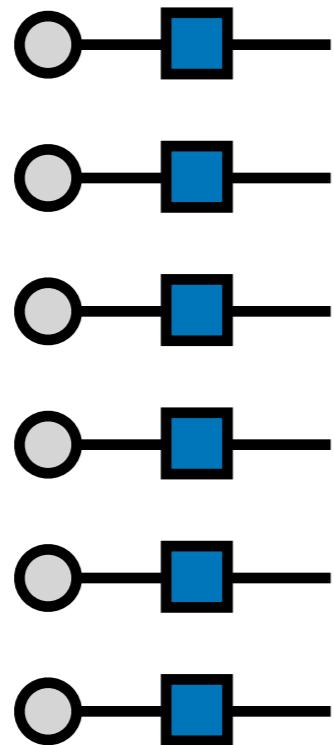
Act with Hadamard gates



$$|\Psi\rangle = \left[ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right]_1 \left[ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right]_2 \left[ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right]_3 \left[ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right]_4 \left[ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right]_5 \left[ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right]_6 / \sqrt{2}^6$$

# Quantum Circuits

Act with Hadamard gates

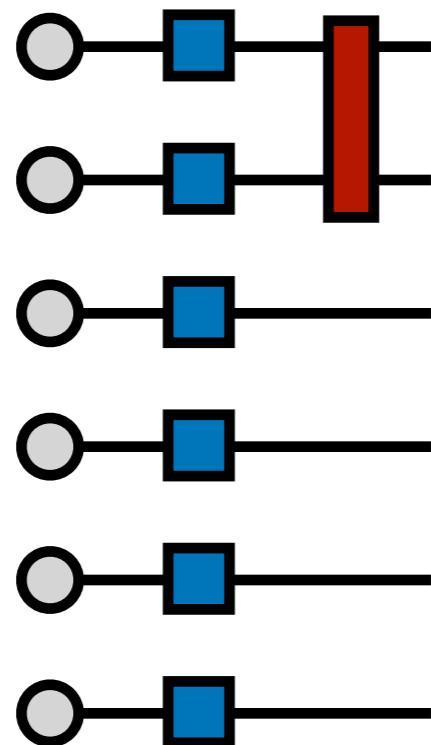


Unentangled state,  
massive superposition

$$|\Psi\rangle = \left[ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right]_1 \left[ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right]_2 \left[ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right]_3 \left[ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right]_4 \left[ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right]_5 \left[ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right]_6 / \sqrt{2}^6$$

# Quantum Circuits

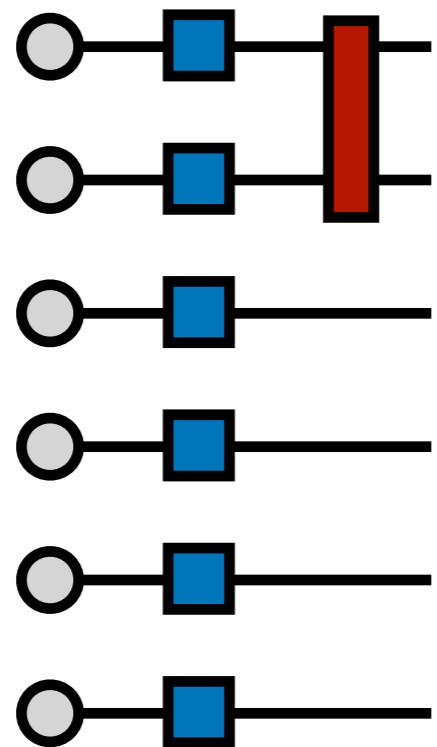
Act with CZ gate on qubits 1 & 2



$$|\Psi\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}_{1,2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_4 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_5 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_6 / \sqrt{2}^6$$

# Quantum Circuits

Act with CZ gate on qubits 1 & 2

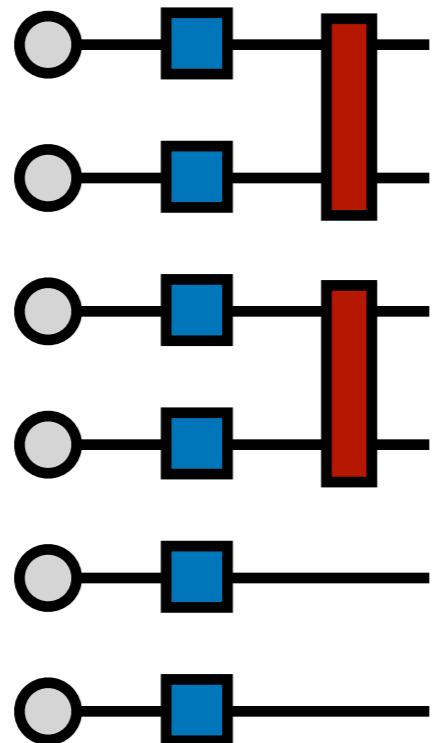


Entanglement  
between qubits 1 & 2

$$|\Psi\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}_{1,2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_4 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_5 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_6 / \sqrt{2}^6$$

# Quantum Circuits

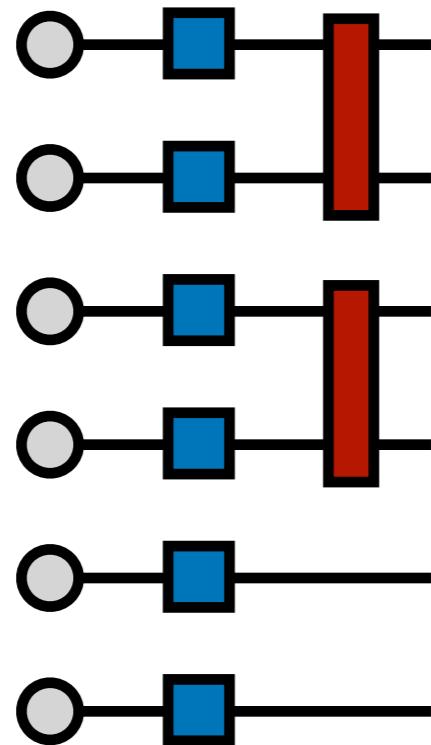
Act with CZ gate on qubits 3 & 4



$$|\Psi\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}_{1,2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}_{3,4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_5 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_6 / \sqrt{2}^6$$

# Quantum Circuits

Act with CZ gate on qubits 3 & 4

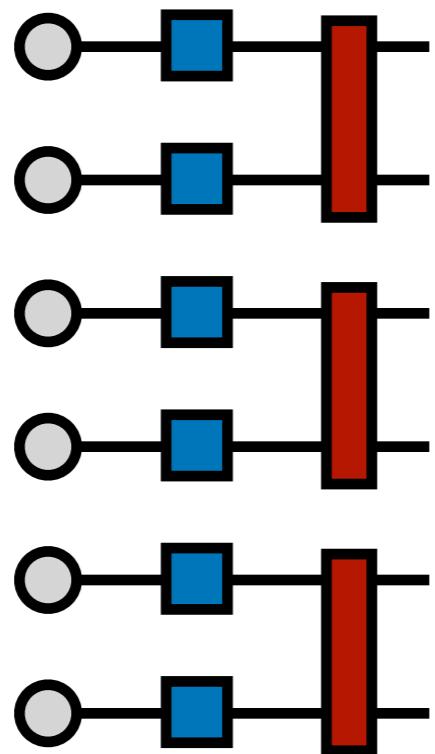


Entanglement  
between qubits 3 & 4

$$|\Psi\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}_{1,2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}_{3,4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_5 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_6 / \sqrt{2}^6$$

# Quantum Circuits

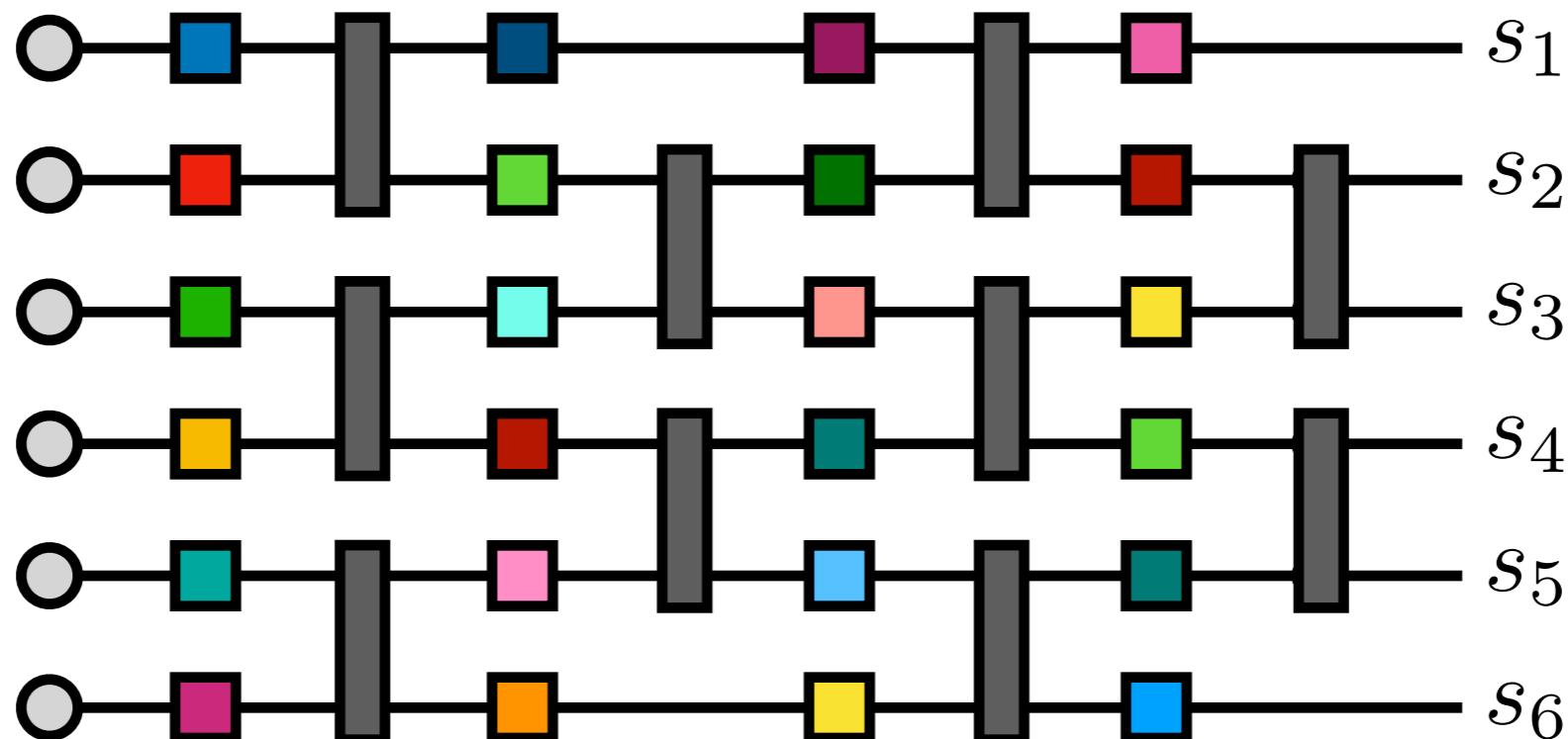
Act with CZ gate on qubits 5 & 6



$$|\Psi\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}_{1,2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}_{3,4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}_{5,6} / \sqrt{2}^6$$

# Quantum Circuits

After enough gates, state can get complicated



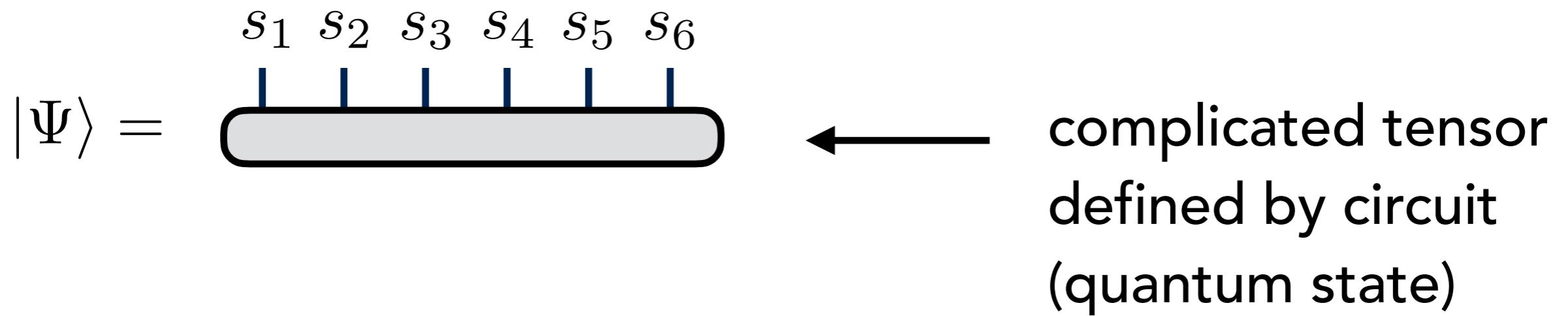
$$|\Psi\rangle = \begin{array}{c} |s_1\ s_2\ s_3\ s_4\ s_5\ s_6\rangle \\ \text{---} \end{array}$$



complicated tensor  
defined by circuit  
(quantum state)

# Quantum Circuits

Quantum computing forces you to encounter large tensors



What if we could work with large tensors on a classical computer?

# **Tensor Network Algorithms**

# Tensor Network Algorithms

Most important aspect of tensor networks are  
the algorithms

Two examples

- algorithm for finding ground states ("DMRG")<sup>[1,2]</sup>
- algorithm for applying gates ("TEBD")<sup>[3]</sup>

[1] White, PRL 69, 2863 (1992)

[2] Schollwöck, Annals of Phys. 326, 96 (2011)

[3] Vidal, PRL 91, 147902 (2003)

# Tensor Network Algorithms

Seminal tensor network algorithm is **DMRG**  
(density matrix renormalization group)

Given a Hamiltonian  $H$

Finds ground state and its energy

$$\min_{\psi} \frac{\langle \psi | H | \psi \rangle}{\langle \psi | \psi \rangle} = E_0$$

# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

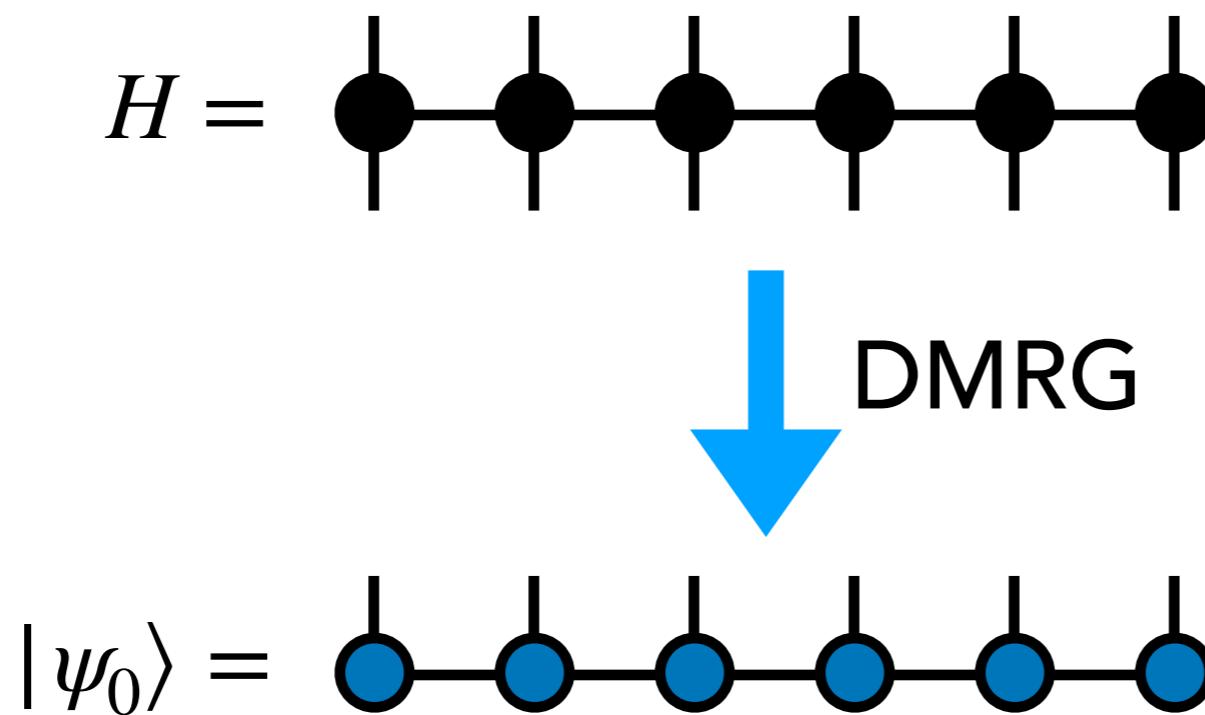
Assume we can write  $H$  as a tensor network

$$H = \begin{array}{cccccc} | & | & | & | & | & | \\ \bullet & - & \bullet & - & \bullet & - & \bullet \\ | & | & | & | & | & | \end{array}$$

# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

DMRG finds its ground state as an MPS tensor network

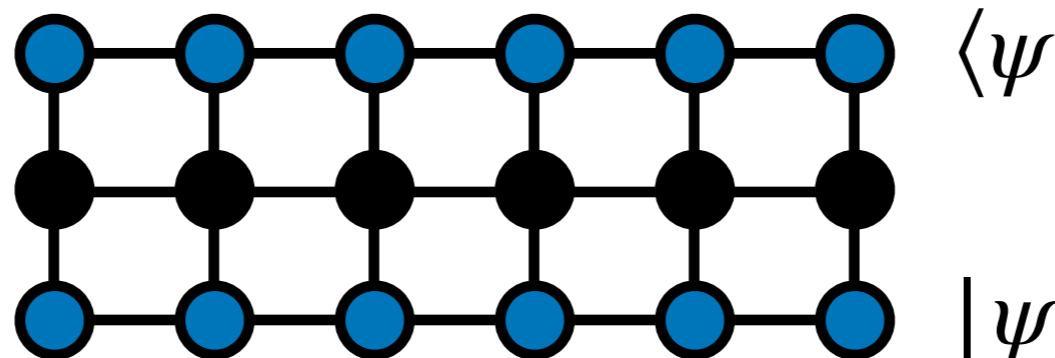


# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

Energy is

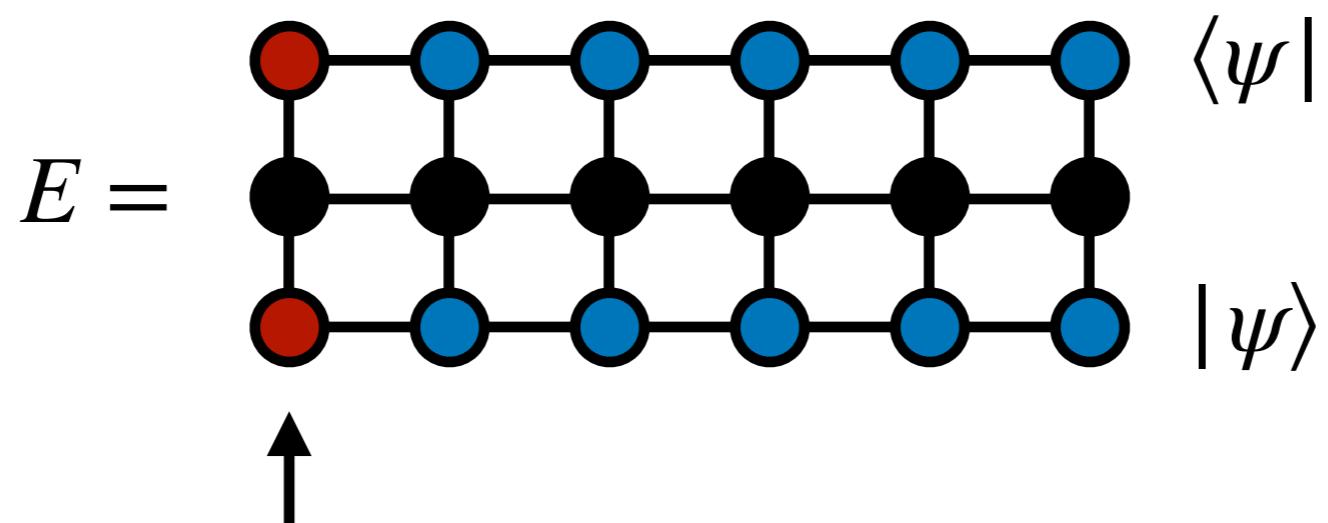
$$E = \langle \psi | \text{[Diagram]} | \psi \rangle$$



# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

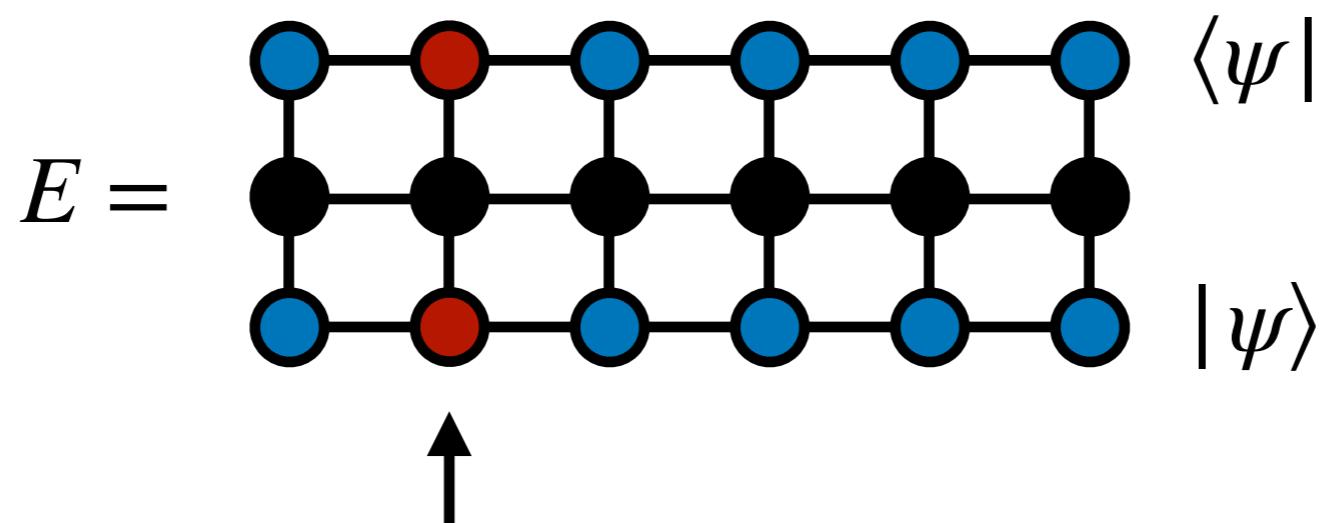
DMRG uses an "alternating" strategy to optimize



# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

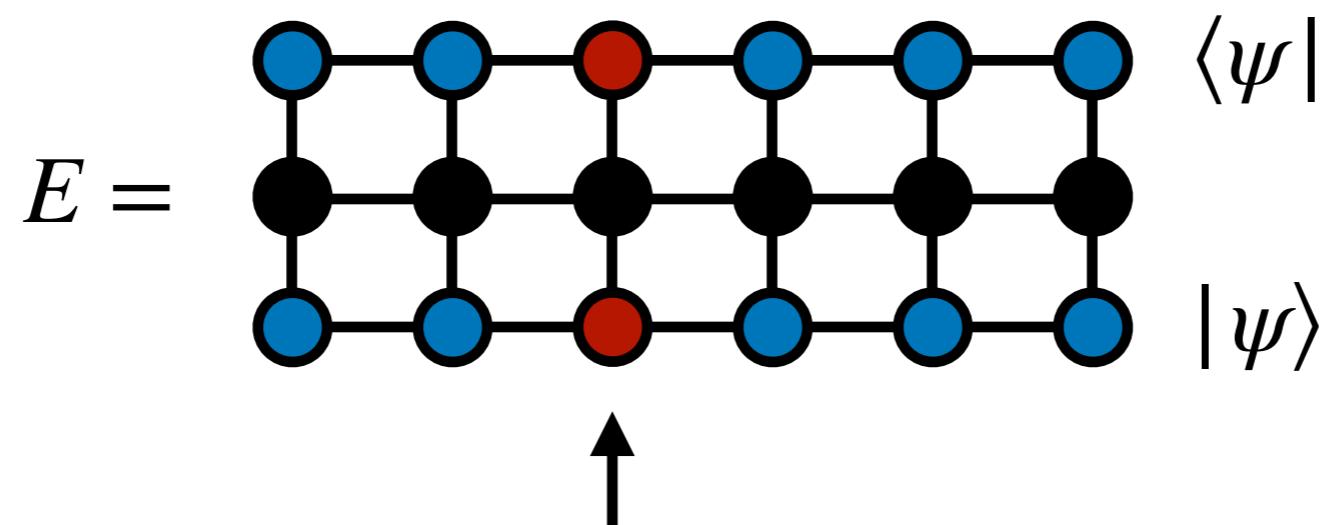
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# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

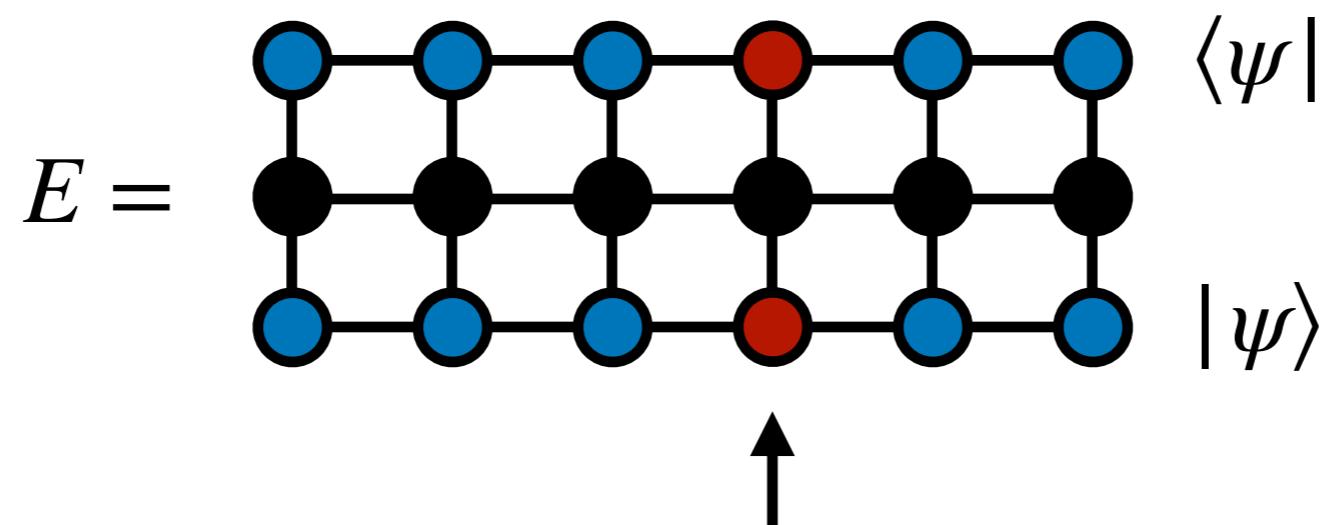
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# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

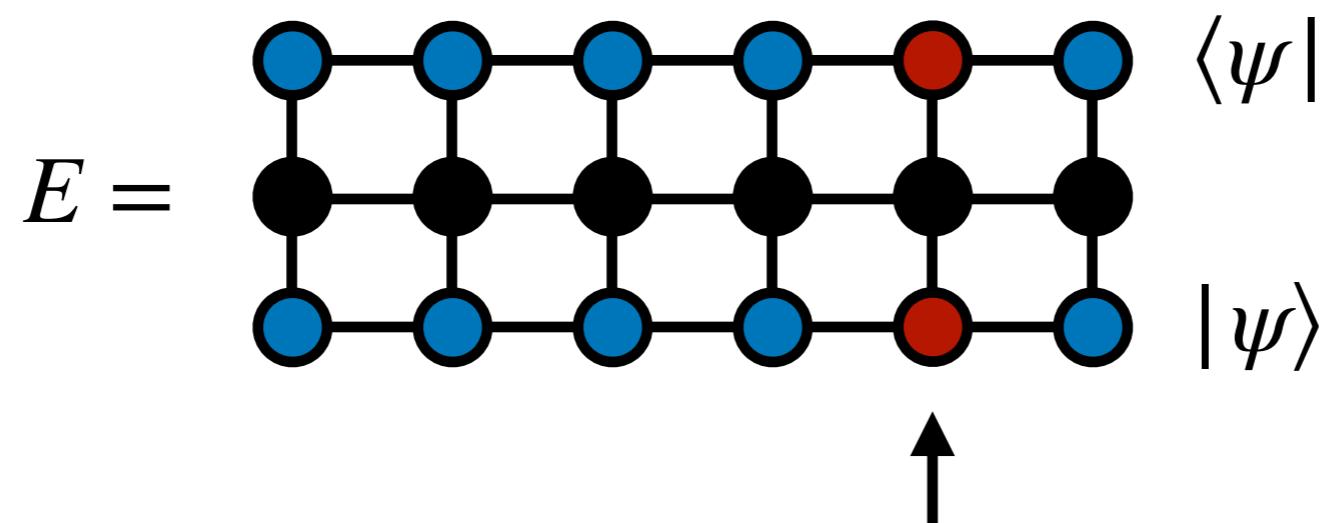
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# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

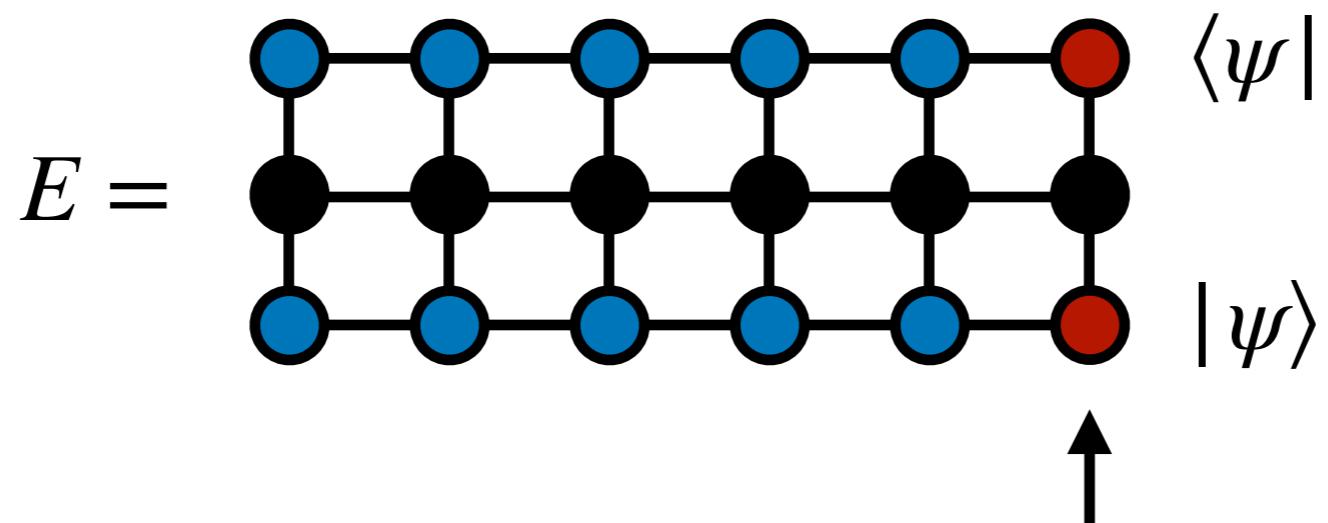
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# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

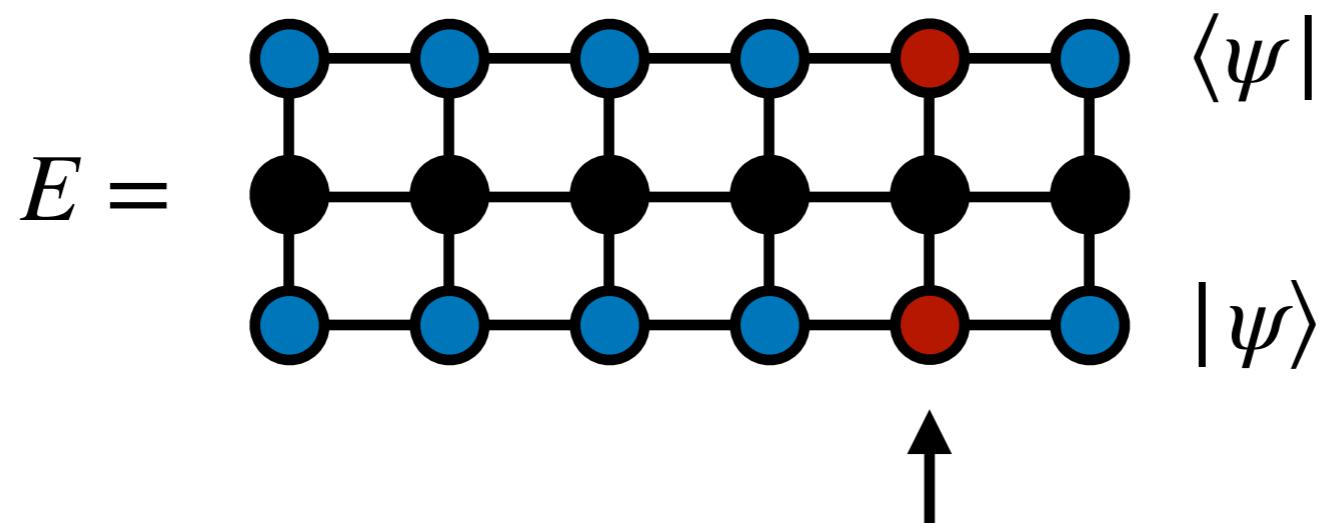
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# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

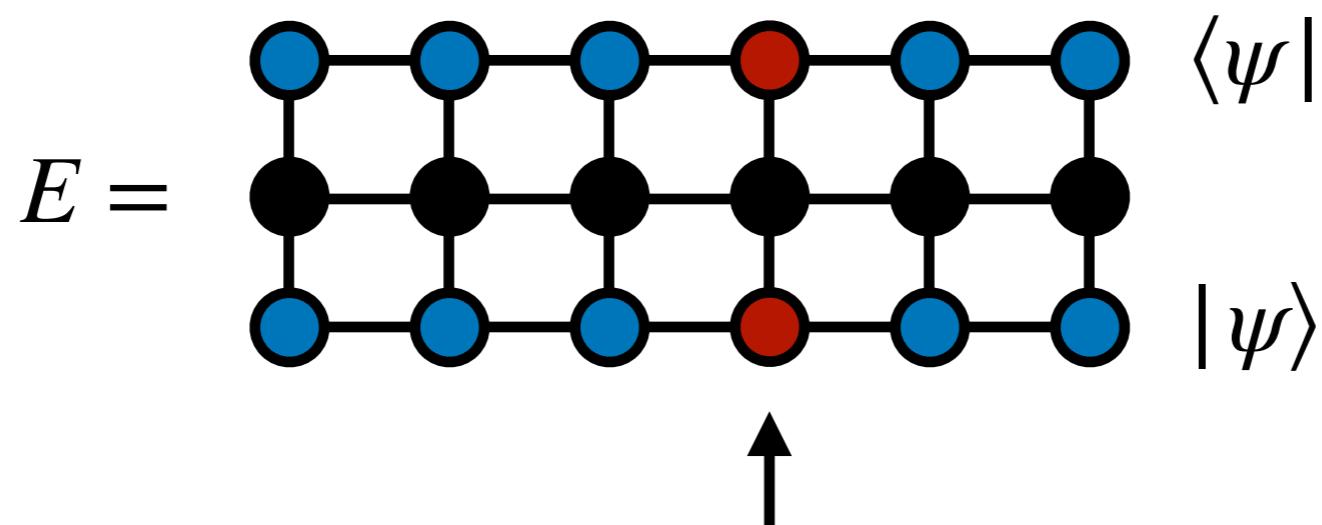
DMRG uses an "alternating" strategy to optimize



# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

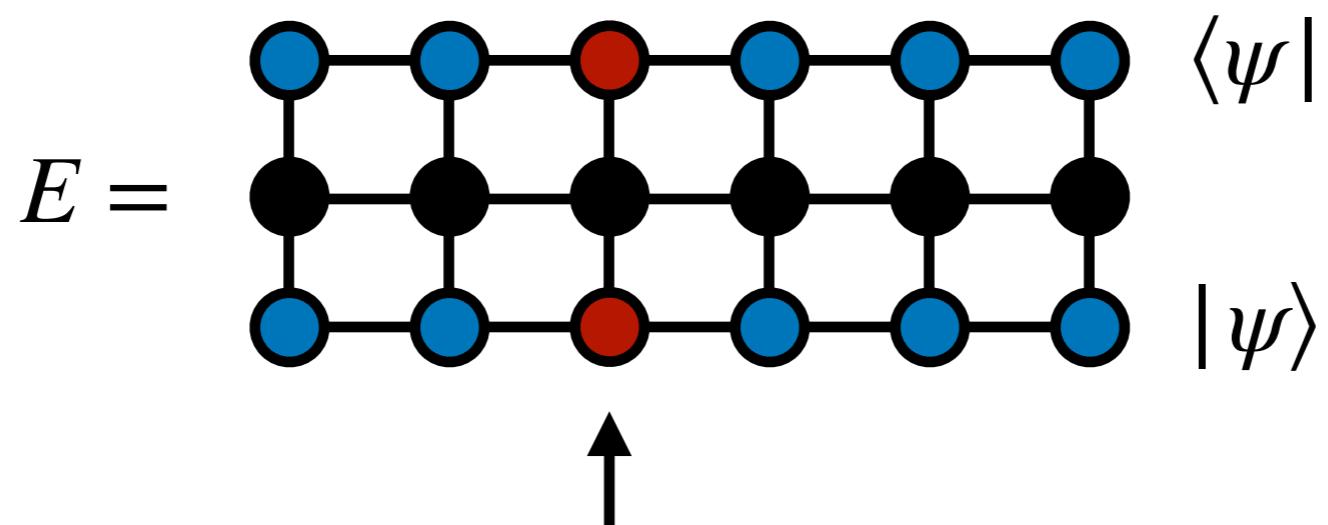
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# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

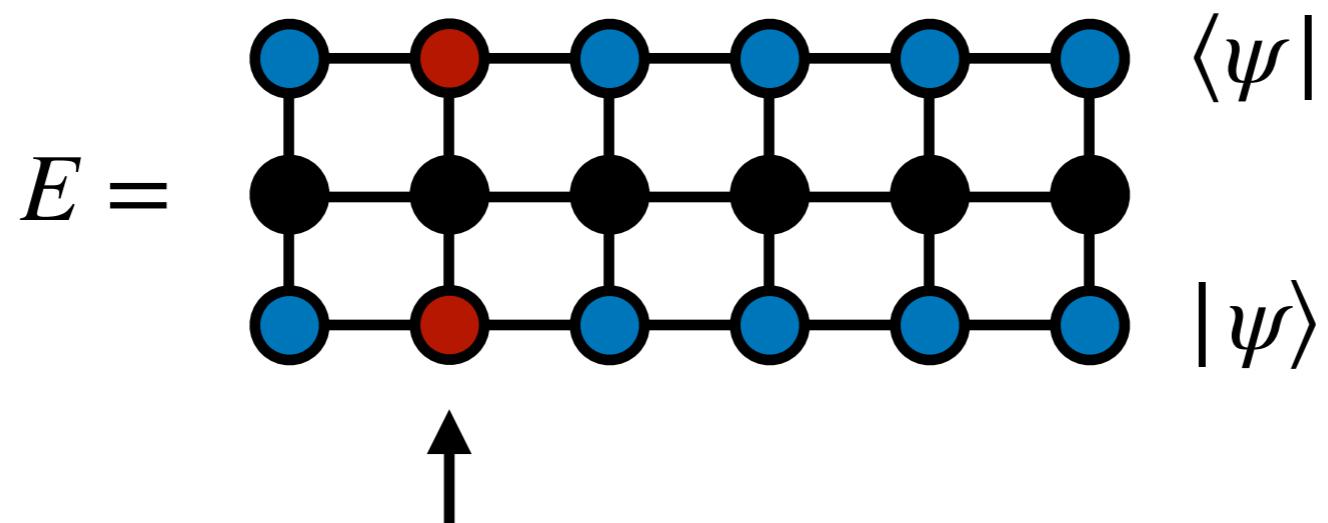
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# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

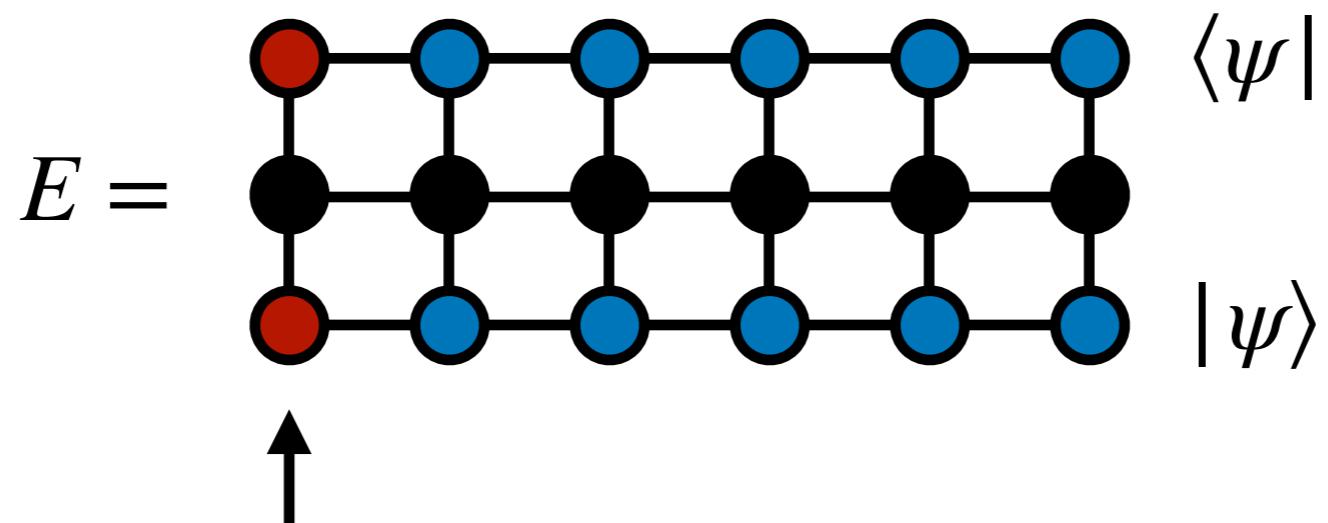
DMRG uses an "alternating" strategy to optimize



# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

DMRG uses an "alternating" strategy to optimize



# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

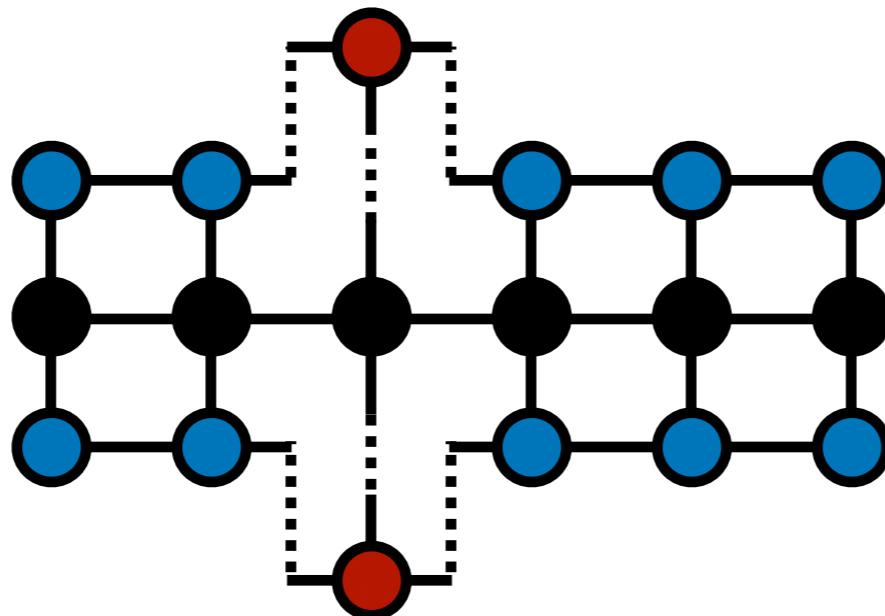
At each step, solve a "mini" diagonalization problem

$$E = \langle \psi | \quad | \psi \rangle$$

# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

At each step, solve a "mini" diagonalization problem\*

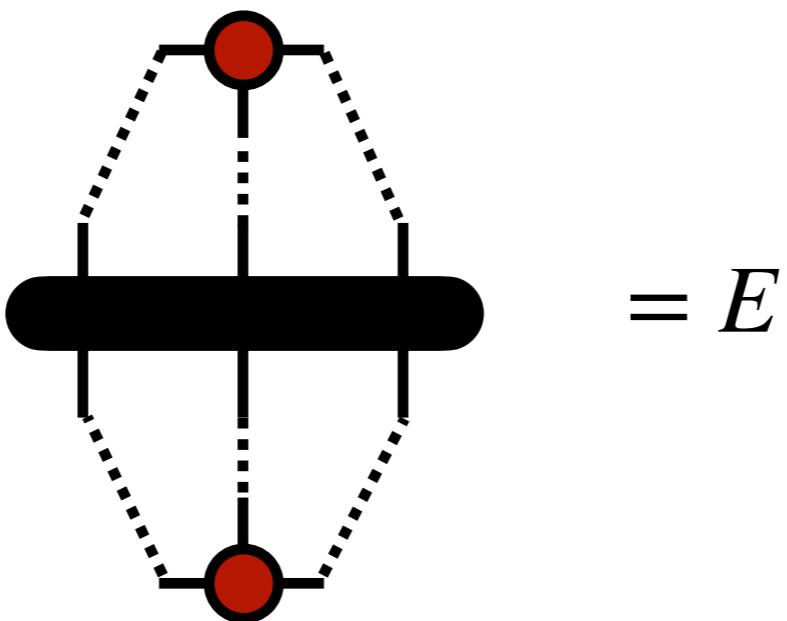


\*technical note: for efficiency, frozen tensors are contracted in three groups, not exactly as shown above

# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG algorithm

At each step, solve a "mini" diagonalization problem\*



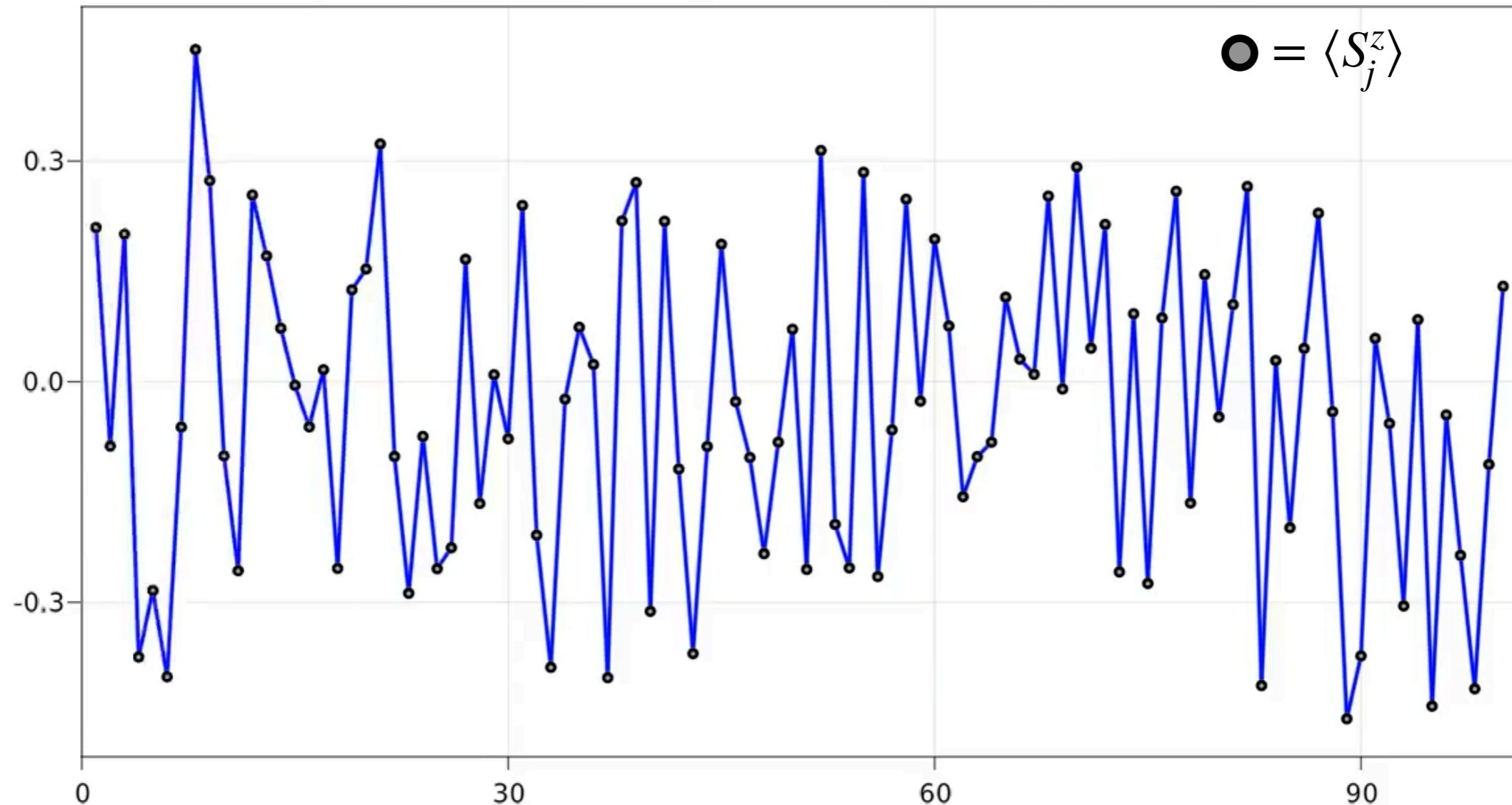
\*technical note: for efficiency, frozen tensors are contracted in three groups, not exactly as shown above

# Tensor Network Algorithms

## DMRG ground-state finding algorithm

DMRG in action – solving Heisenberg chain  $H = \sum_j \vec{S}_j \cdot \vec{S}_{j+1}$

S=1/2 Heisenberg Model, N = 100, Sweep = 1, Energy = -2.3638064



# Tensor Network Algorithms

DMRG algorithm is extremely precise

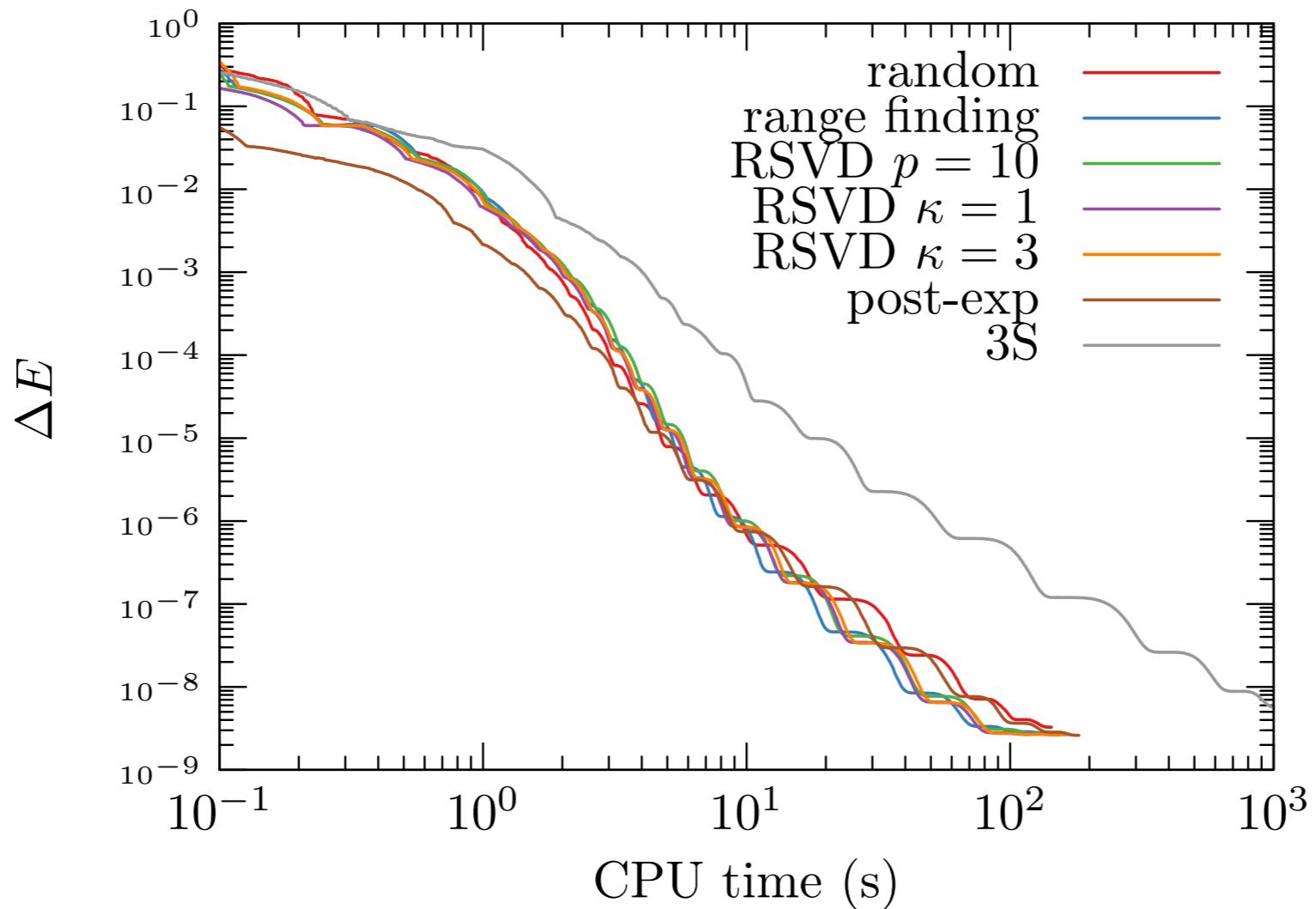
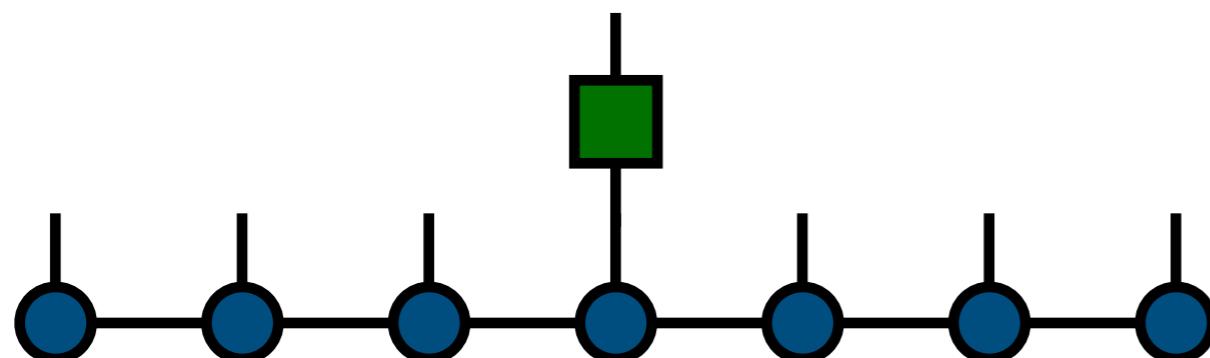


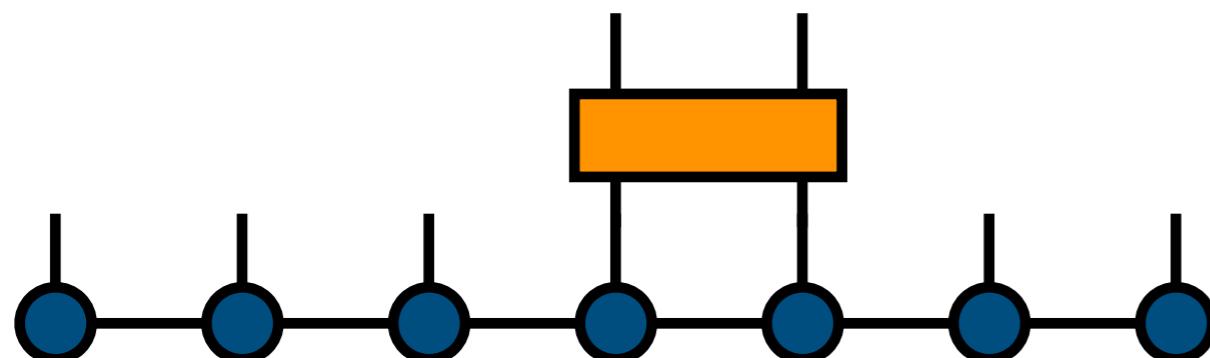
FIG. 5. CPU time (seconds) for the Hubbard-Holstein model.

# Tensor Network Algorithms

**TEBD** = controlled application of one-qubit and two-qubit gates to an MPS



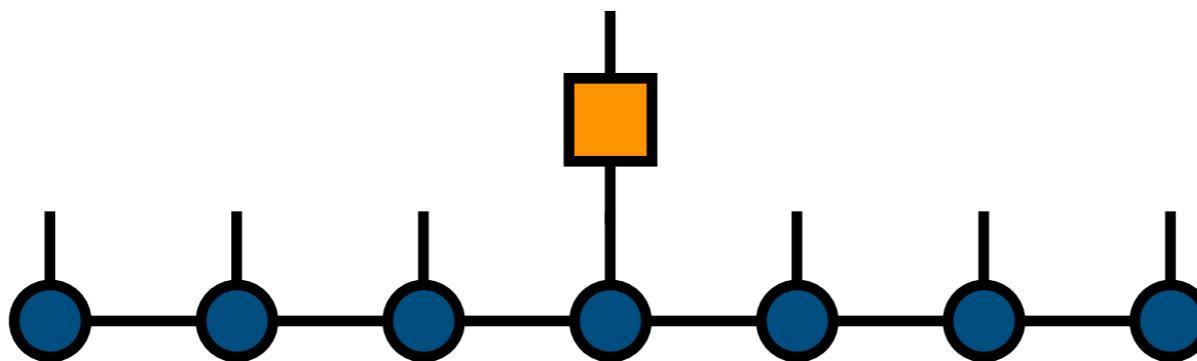
one-qubit gate is exact



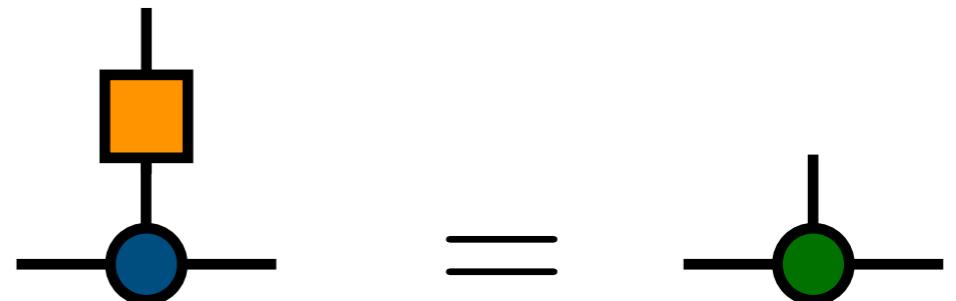
two-qubit gate incurs  
small error controlled  
by bond-dimension  $\chi$

# Tensor Network Algorithms

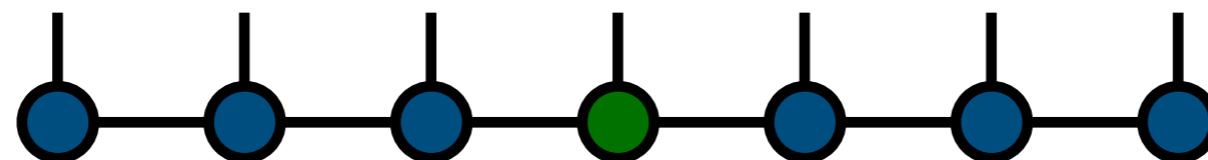
Say we want to act a single-qubit gate on a wavefunction in MPS form



Just operate on one tensor:

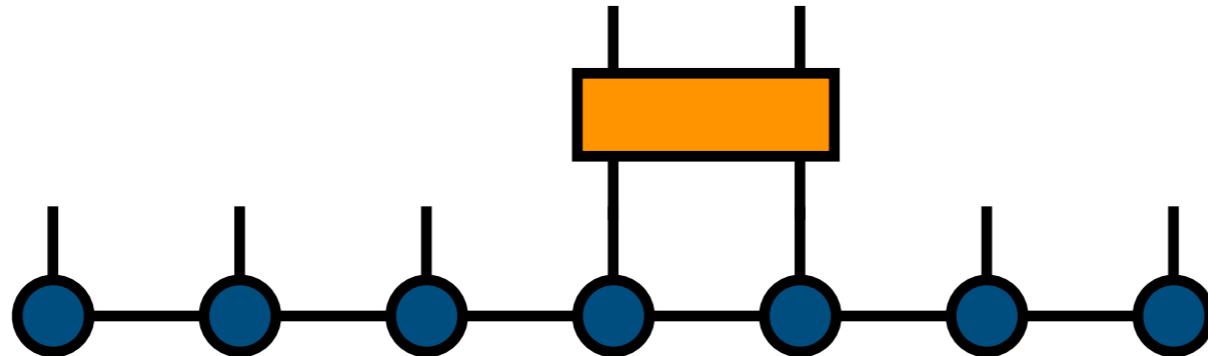


Result:

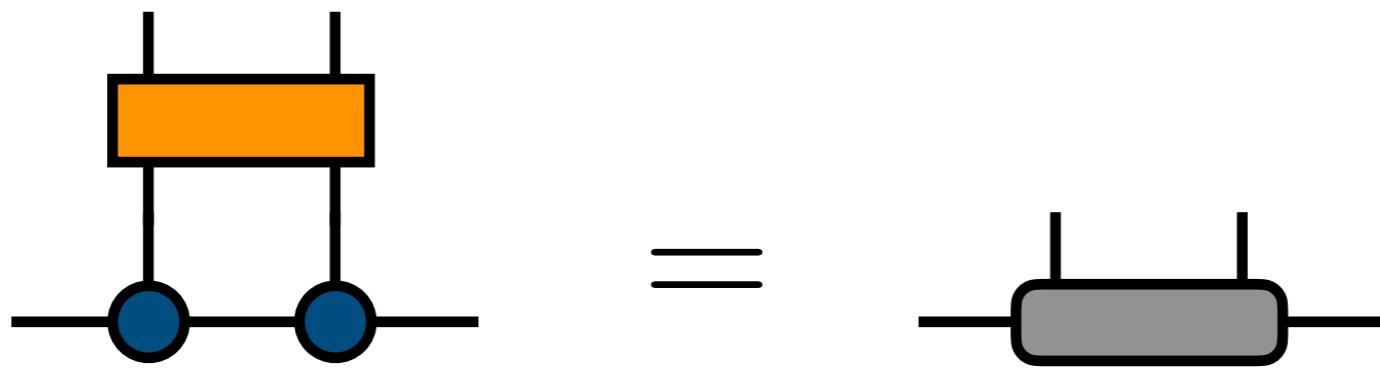


*same bond dimension*

Say we want to act two-qubit gate on a wavefunction in MPS form

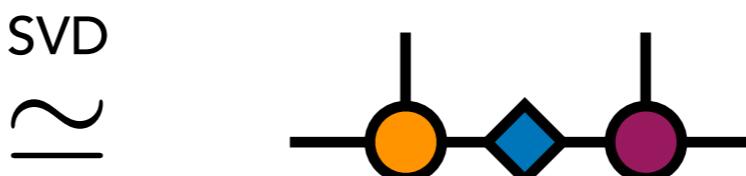
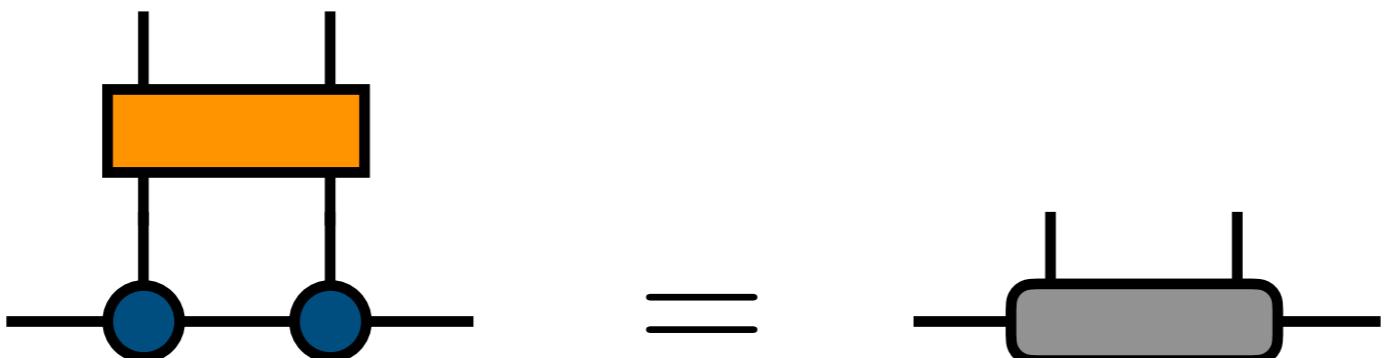


Operate on two tensors:

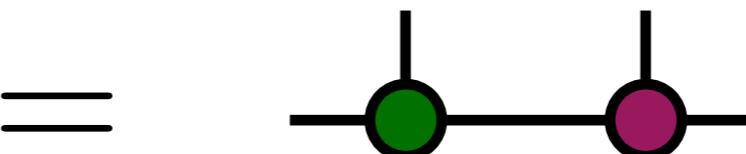


*destroy  
MPS form  
locally*

But can recover MPS form using truncated SVD:

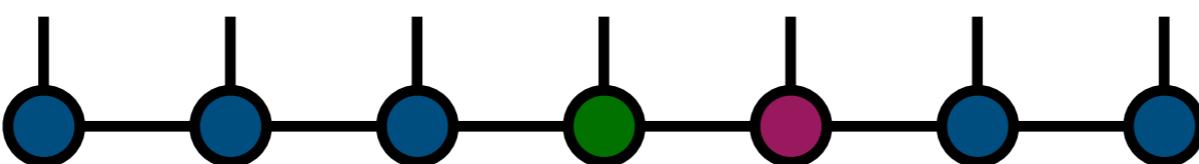


*keep top  
 $\chi$  values*



*same bond  
dimension,  
small loss  
of fidelity*

Result:



# Tensor Network Algorithms

Summary: applying gates (TEBD algorithm)

$$U |\Psi\rangle = \text{Diagram showing a sequence of blue circles connected by horizontal lines, with a large purple rectangle labeled } U \text{ placed above them.}$$

1. Contract three tensors

$$\text{Diagram showing a sequence of two blue circles connected by horizontal lines, with a large purple rectangle above them. An equals sign follows, followed by a diagram where the two circles are contracted into a single purple oval.}$$

2. Approximately factorize

$$\text{Diagram showing a single purple oval from the previous step, followed by an approximate symbol } \approx \text{, followed by a diagram where the oval is approximated as two green circles connected by a horizontal line.}$$

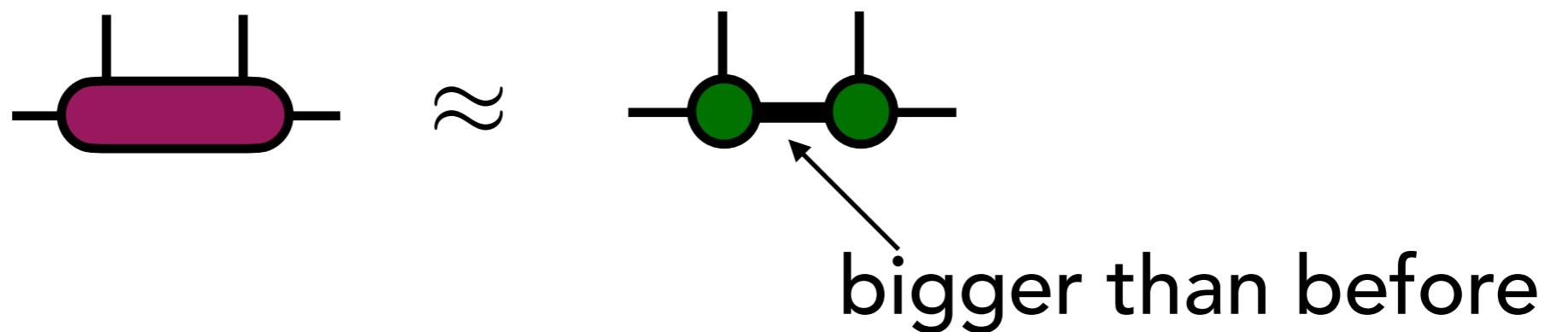
& put back

# Tensor Network Algorithms

Applying gates (TEBD algorithm)

Q: What stops us from simulating any quantum circuit?

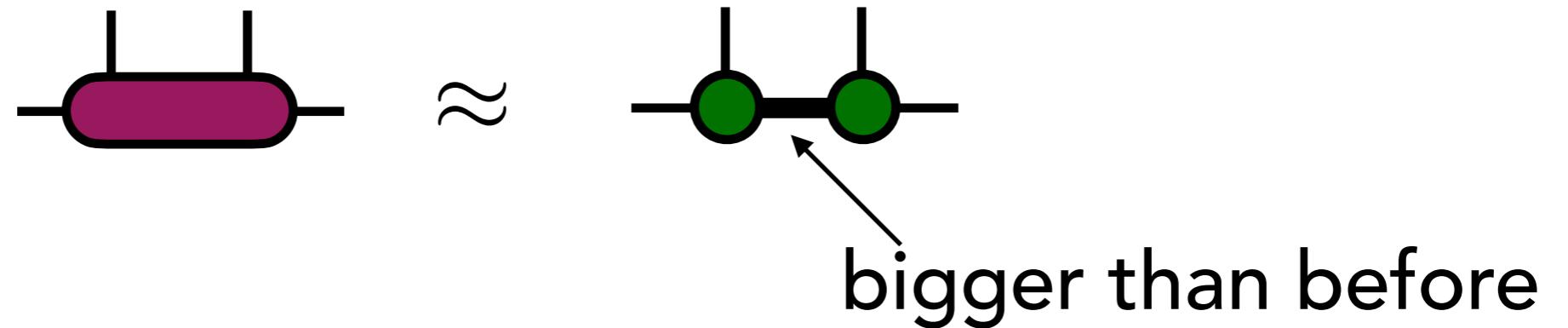
A: Factorization step: internal ranks generally grow to maintain accuracy



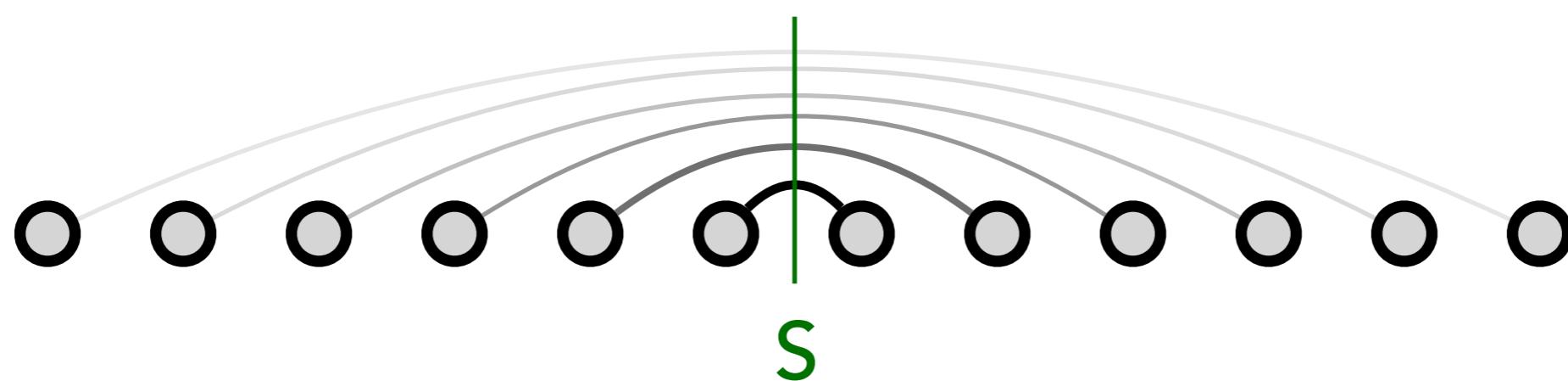
# Tensor Network Algorithms

Applying gates (TEBD algorithm)

Q: What stops us from simulating any quantum circuit?



Rank lower bound related to entanglement  $S$  of  $|\Psi\rangle^*$



$$* S \leq \log(\chi)$$

# Tensor Network Algorithms

## Applying gates (TEBD algorithm)

Q: What stops us from simulating any quantum circuit?

Important to note:

- not limited by number of qubits ( $n > 1000$  can be done)
- not limited by type of gates
- agnostic to underlying problem

Entanglement is the barrier! (And relatedly, dimensionality.)

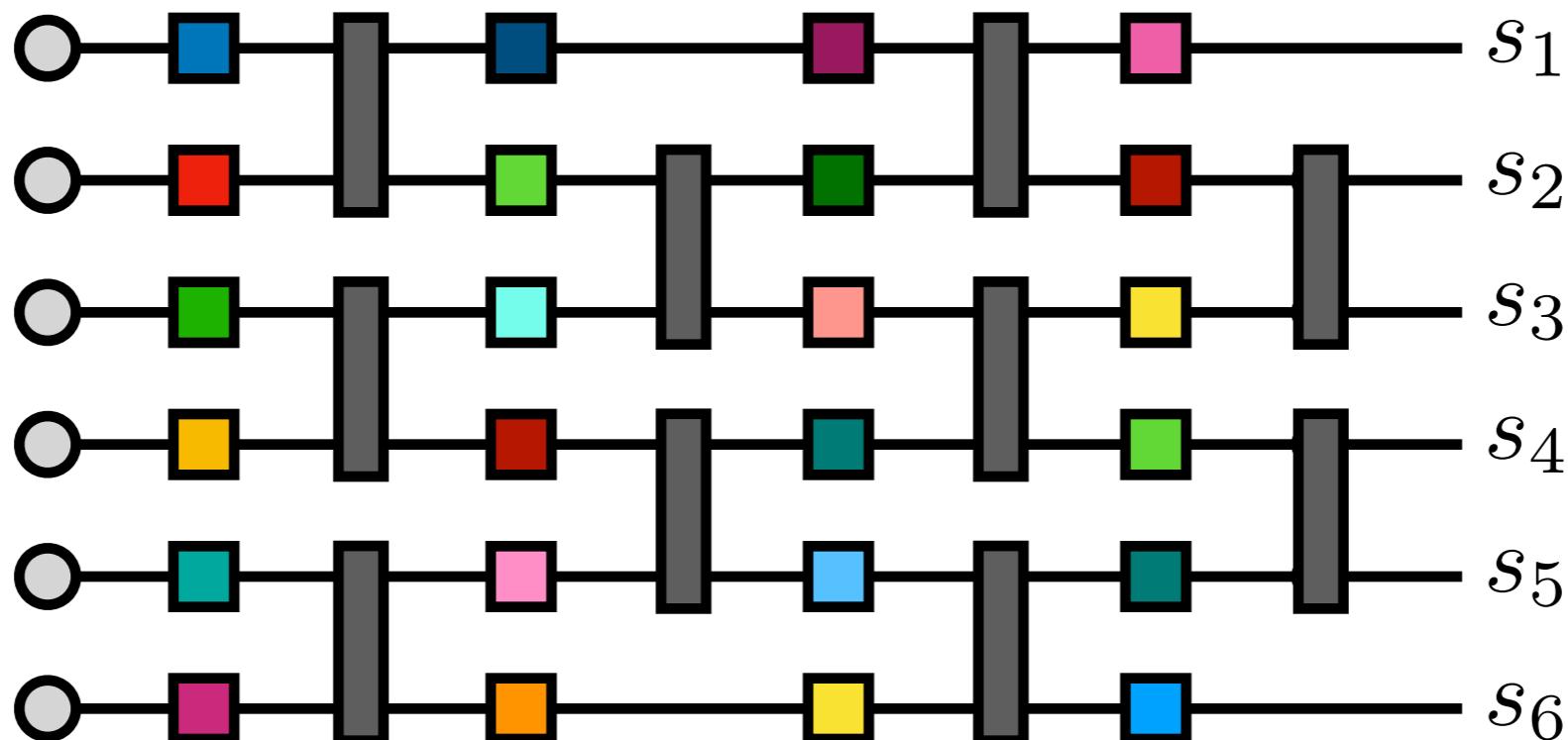
# Tensor Network Quantum Simulations

## References:

- Zhou, EMS, Waintal, "What Limits the Simulation of Quantum Computers?", [PRX 10, 041038](#) (2020)
- Ayral et al., "DMRG Algorithm for Simulating Quantum Circuits with a Finite Fidelity", [PRX Quantum 4, 020304](#) (2023)
- Vidal, "Efficient Classical Simulation of Slightly Entangled Quantum Computations", [Phys. Rev. Lett. 91, 147902](#) (2003)
- Markov, Shi, "Simulating Quantum Computation by Contracting Tensor Networks", [SIAM J. Computing, 38, 963-981](#) (2001)

# Quantum Circuits

After enough gates, state can get complicated



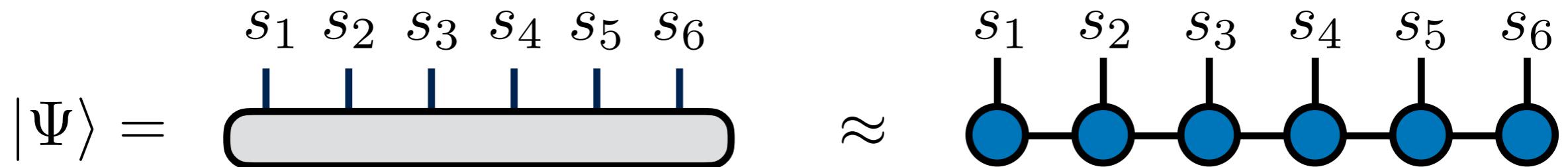
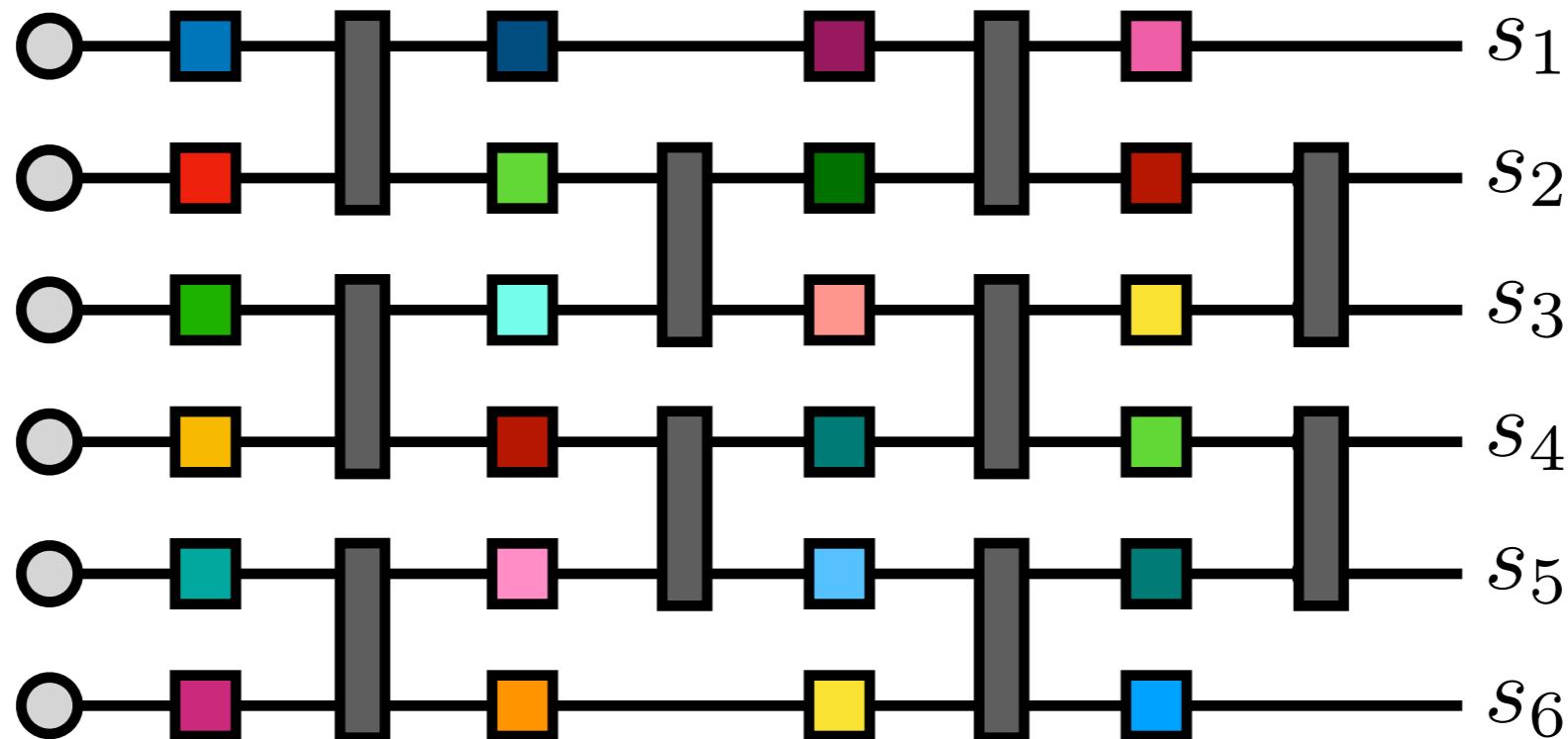
$$|\Psi\rangle = \begin{array}{c} |s_1\rangle |s_2\rangle |s_3\rangle |s_4\rangle |s_5\rangle |s_6\rangle \\ \text{---} \end{array}$$



complicated tensor  
defined by circuit  
(quantum state)

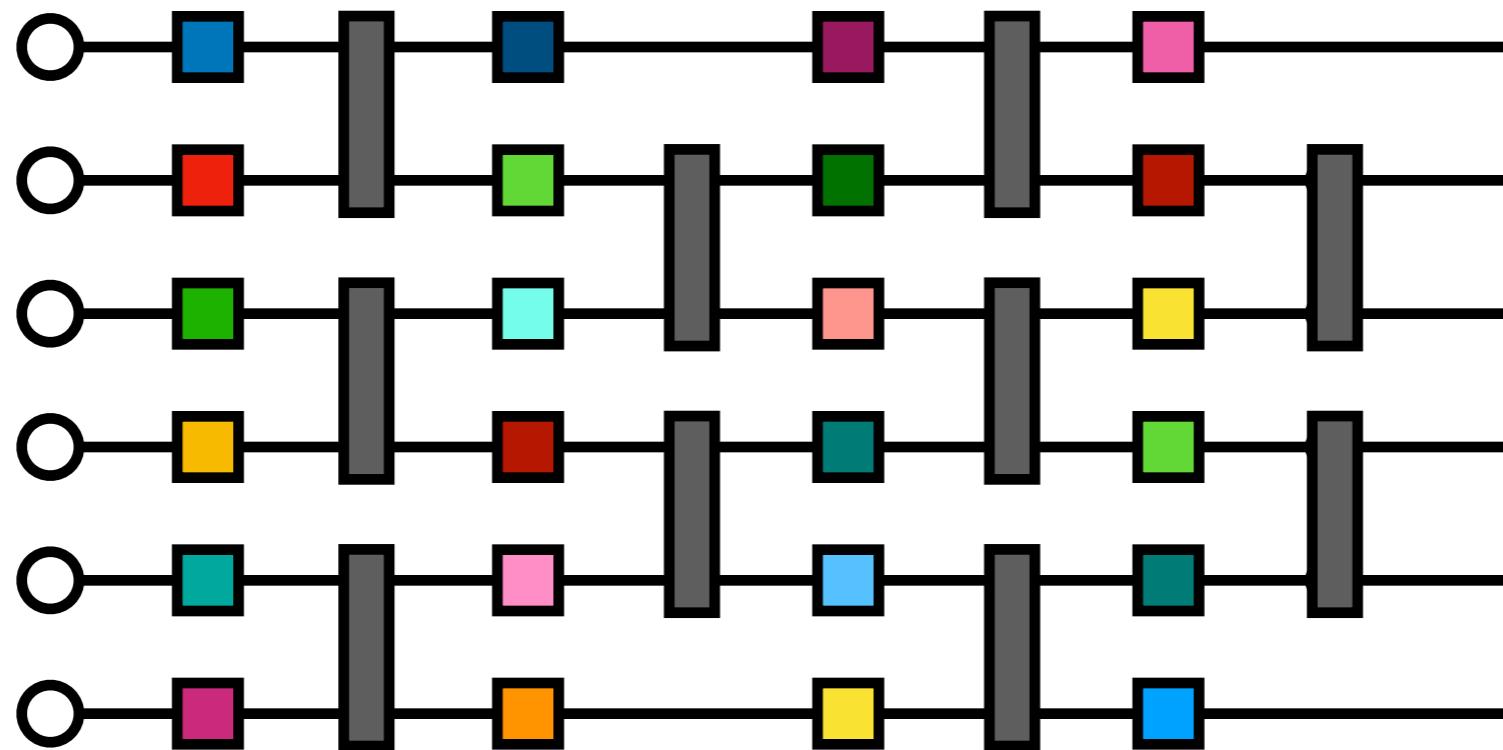
# Quantum Circuits

For structured circuits, final state *might* be MPS



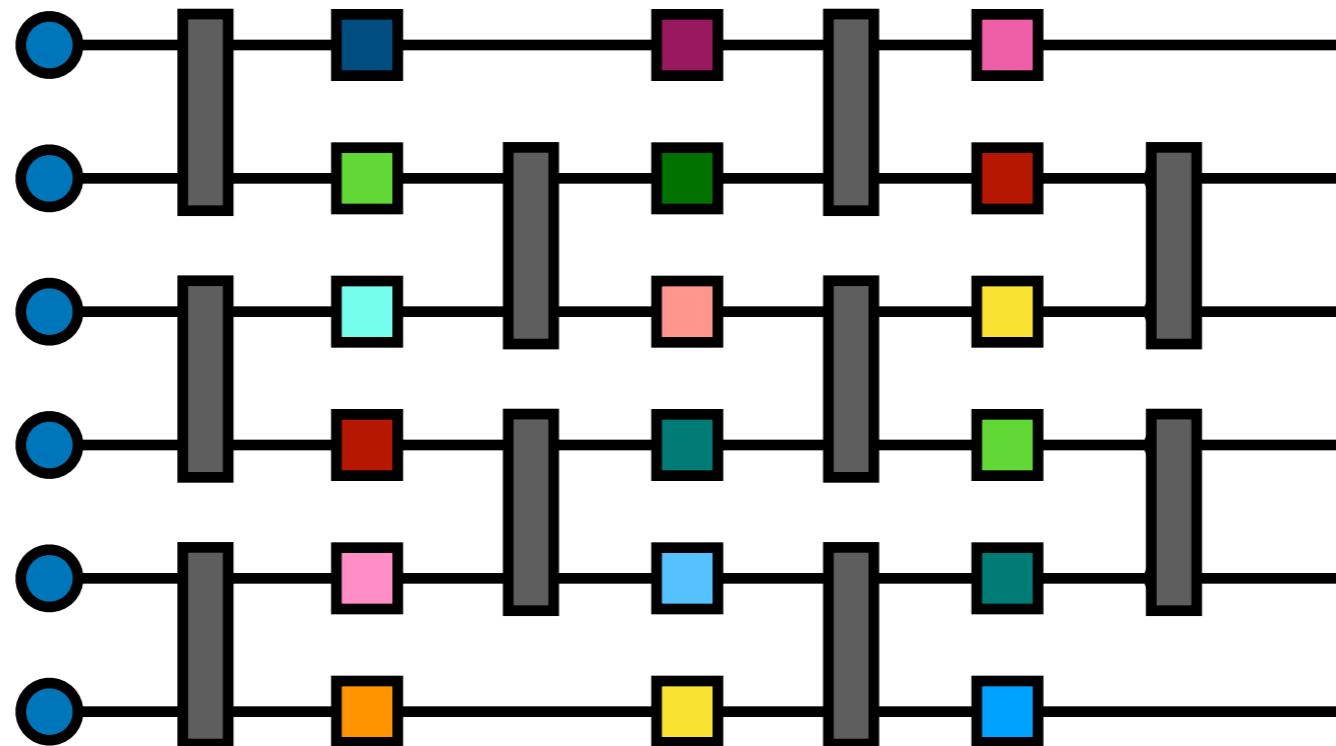
# TEBD Algorithm

Simulation of 1D quantum circuit with  
TEBD algorithm



# TEBD Algorithm

Simulation of 1D quantum circuit with  
TEBD algorithm

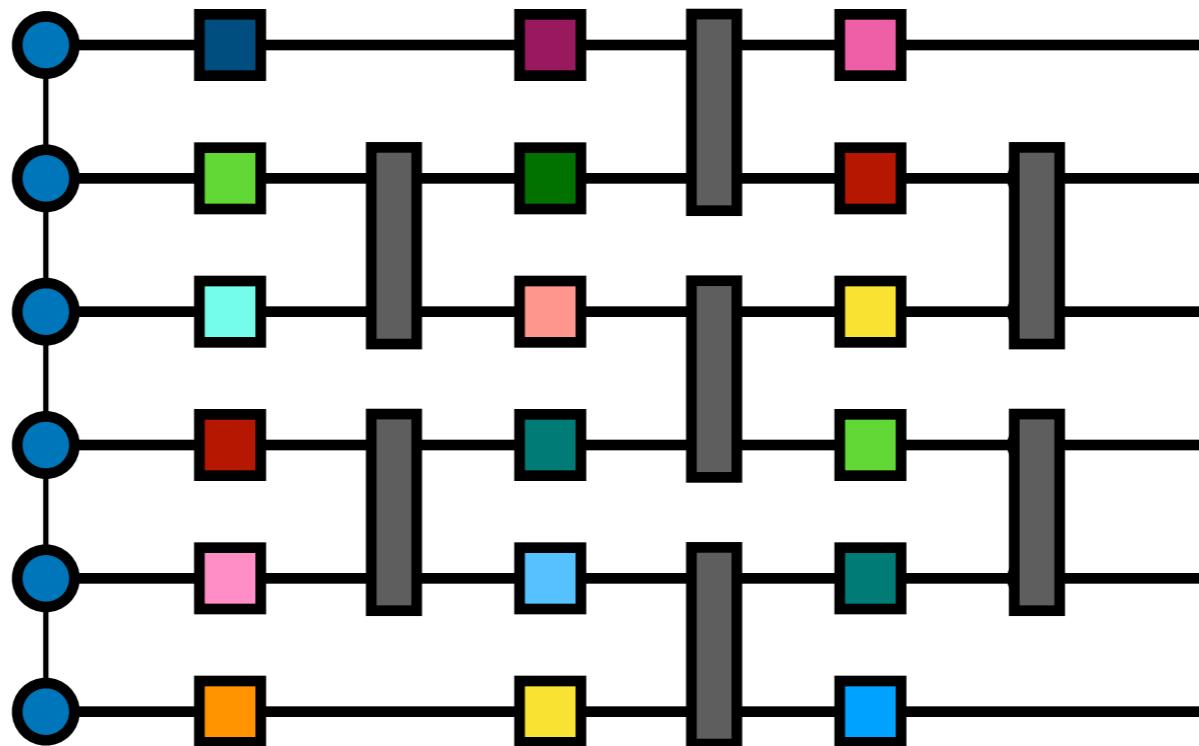


Fidelity



# TEBD Algorithm

Simulation of 1D quantum circuit with  
TEBD algorithm

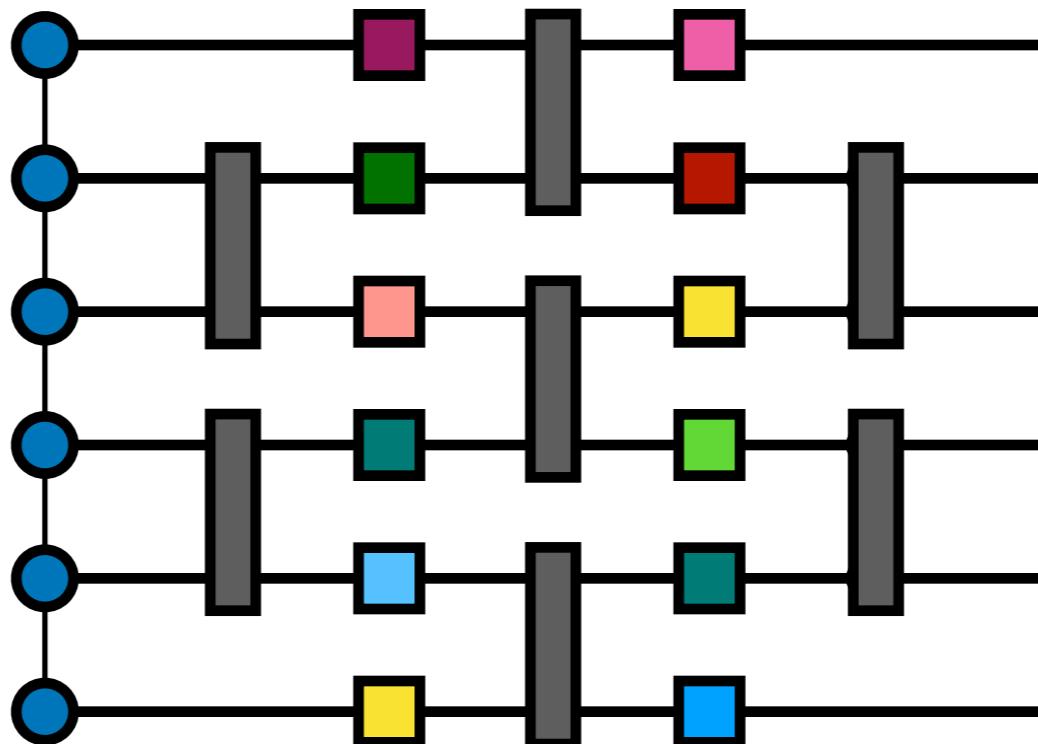


Fidelity



# TEBD Algorithm

Simulation of 1D quantum circuit with  
TEBD algorithm

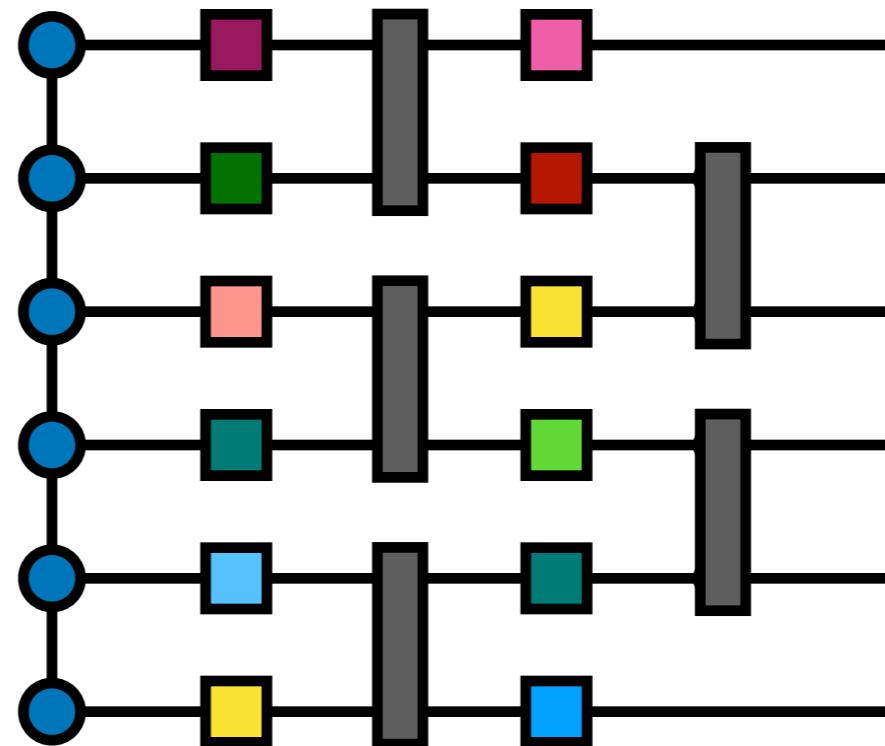


Fidelity



# TEBD Algorithm

Simulation of 1D quantum circuit with  
TEBD algorithm

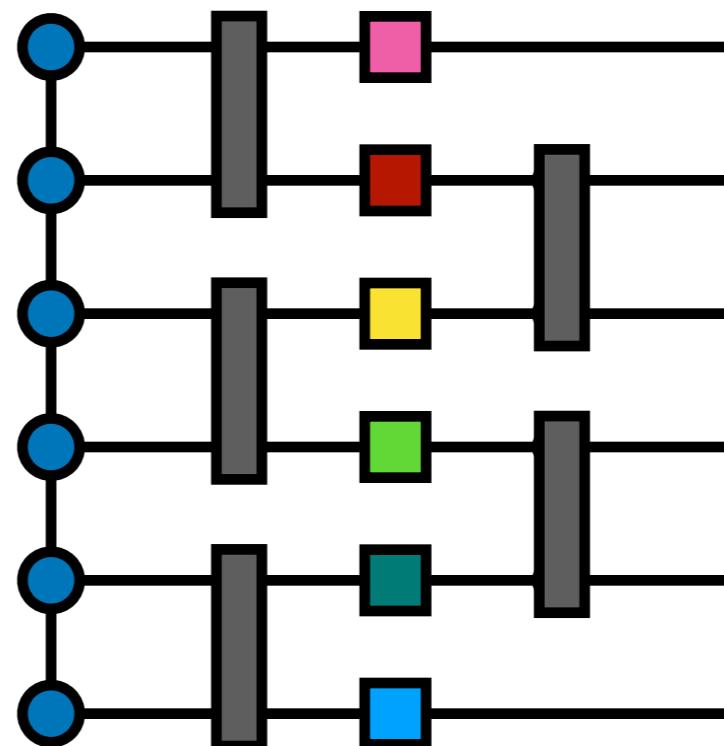


Fidelity



# TEBD Algorithm

Simulation of 1D quantum circuit with  
TEBD algorithm

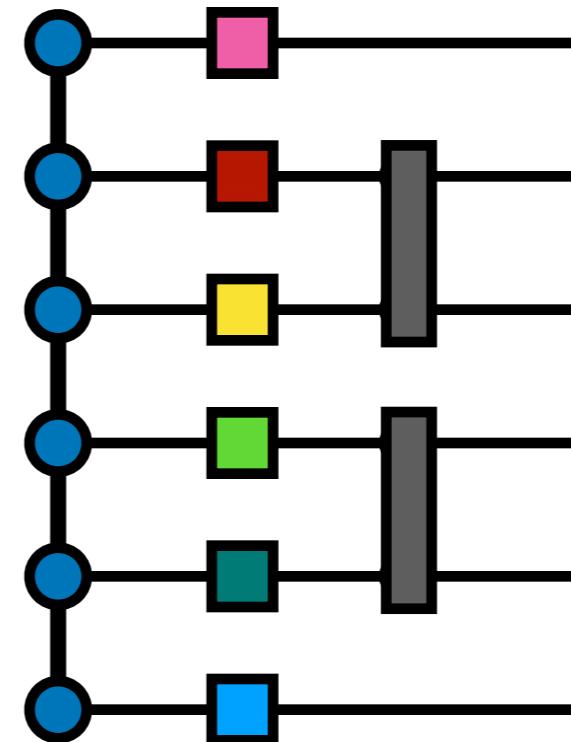


Fidelity

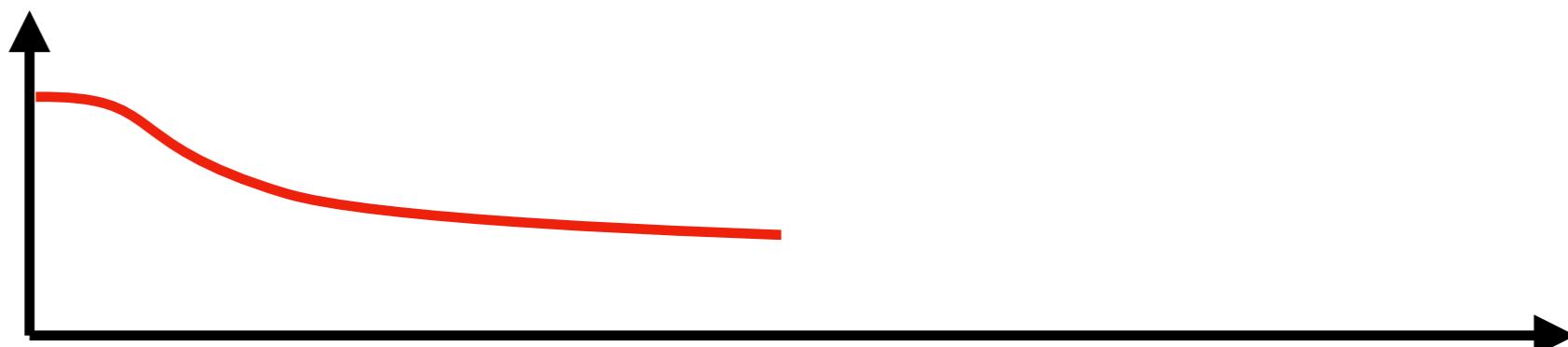


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Simulation of 1D quantum circuit with  
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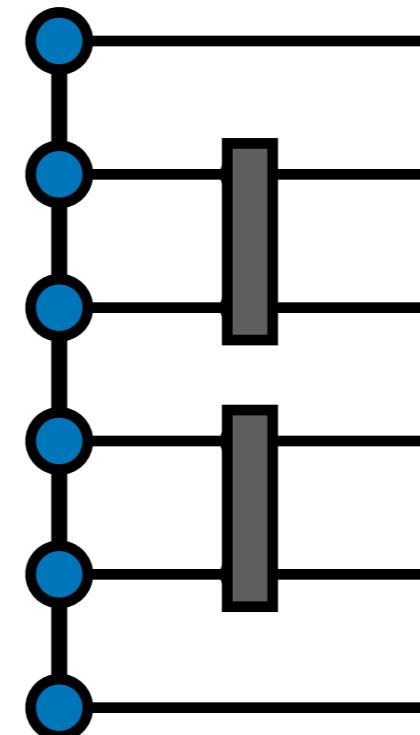


Fidelity

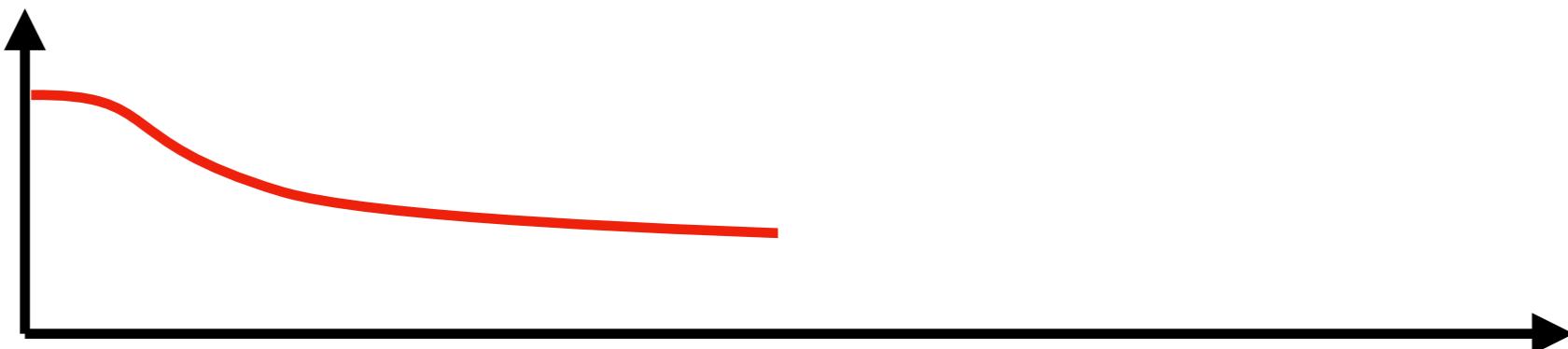


# TEBD Algorithm

Simulation of 1D quantum circuit with  
TEBD algorithm



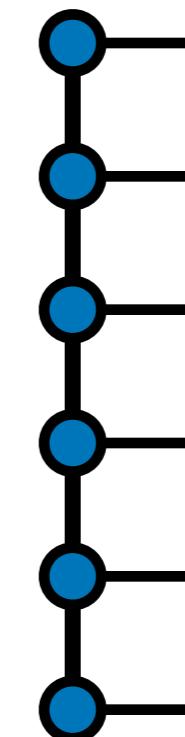
Fidelity



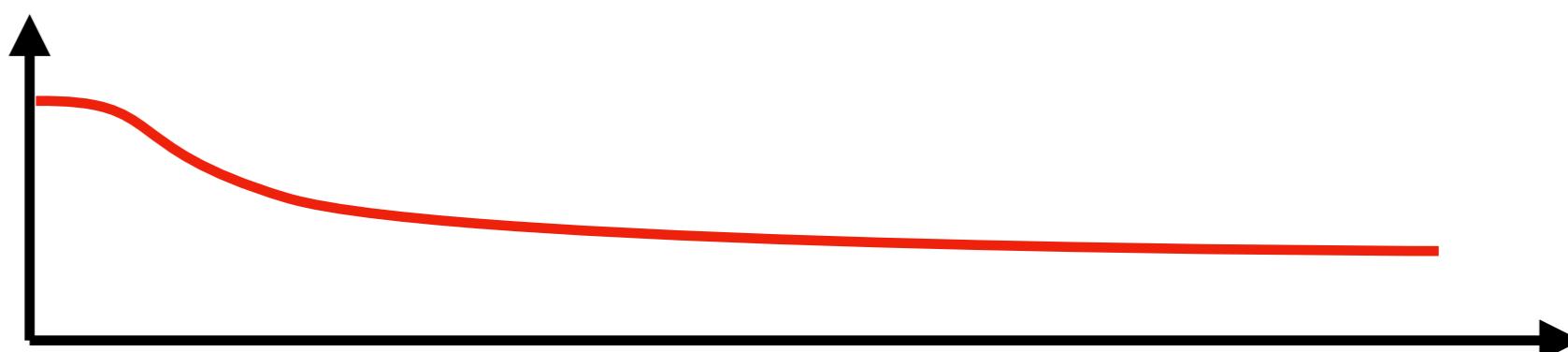
# TEBD Algorithm

Simulation of 1D quantum circuit with  
TEBD algorithm

obtain entire state afterward



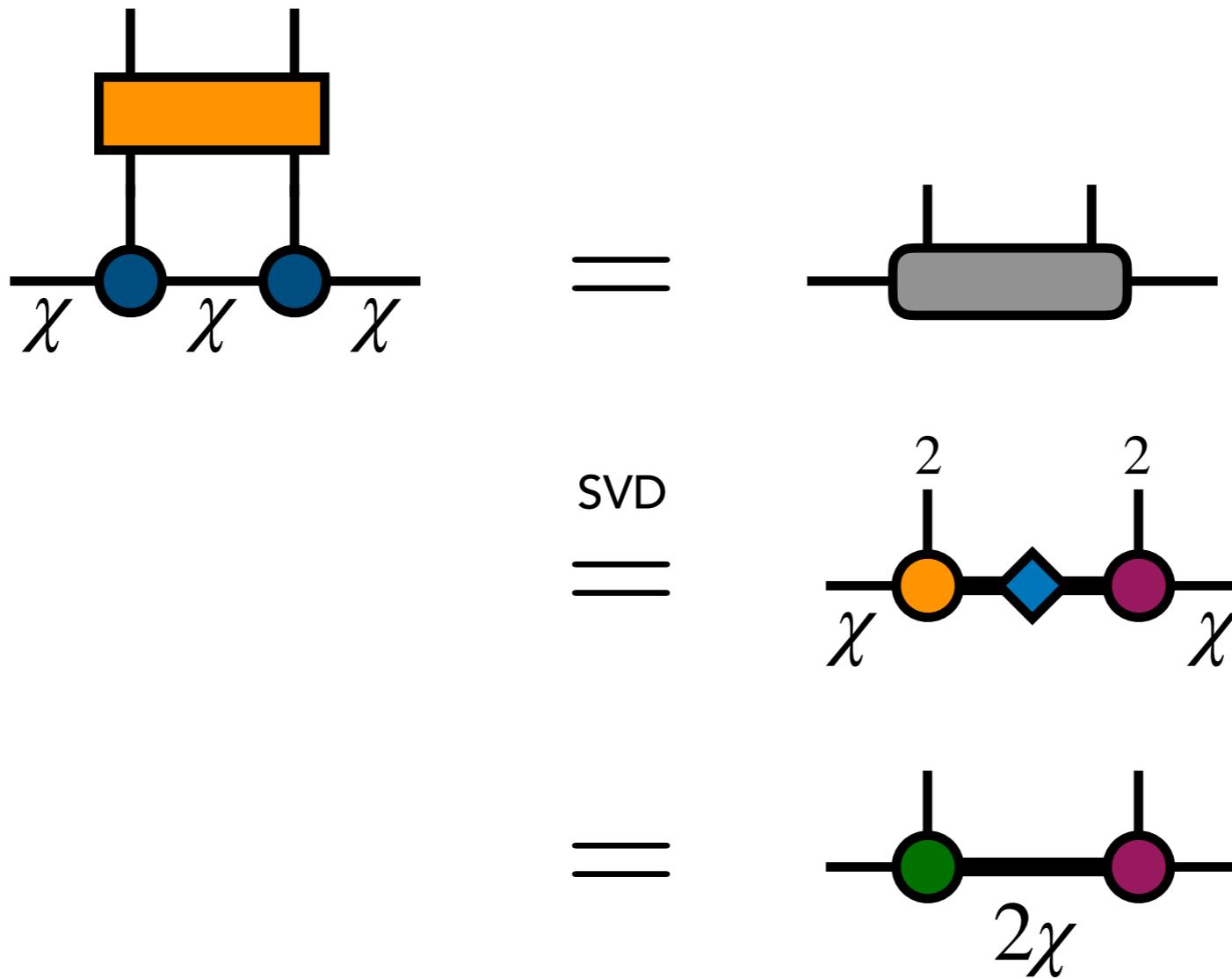
Fidelity



# Tensor Network Simulations

When can tensor network simulations succeed?

Worst case, bond dimension  $\chi$  doubles every layer



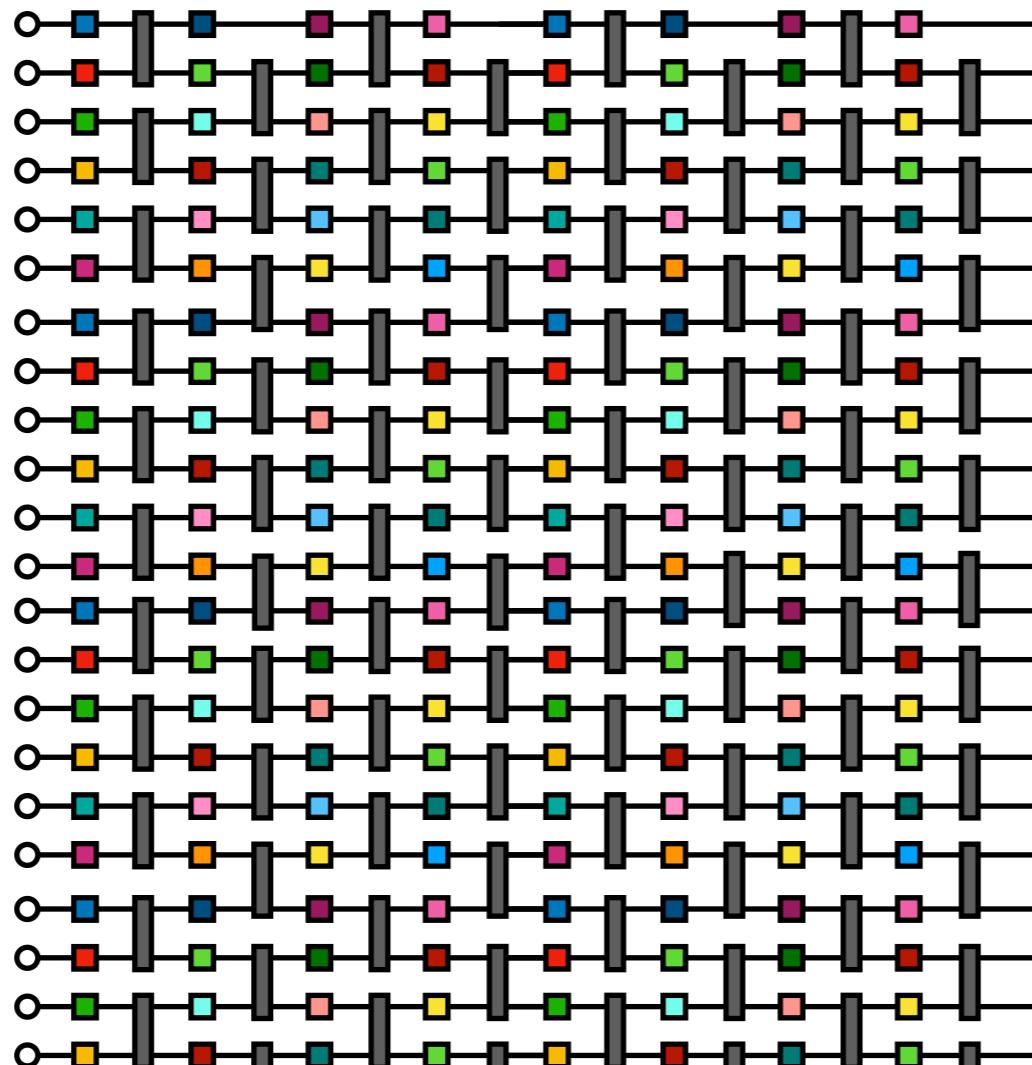
# Tensor Network Simulations

Worst case, bond dimension  $\chi$  doubles every layer

Exponential growth... but

automatically means  $\sim 10$  layers is always possible in 1D  
 $(2^{10} = 1024)$

Holds even for thousands of qubits



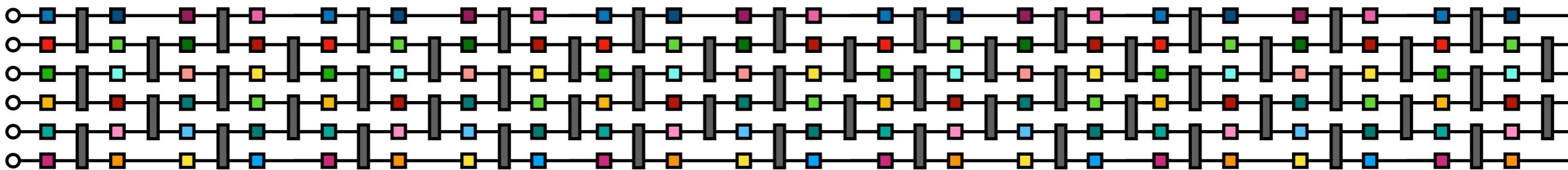
An easy  
simulation:

# Tensor Network Simulations

Worst case, bond dimension  $\chi$  doubles every layer

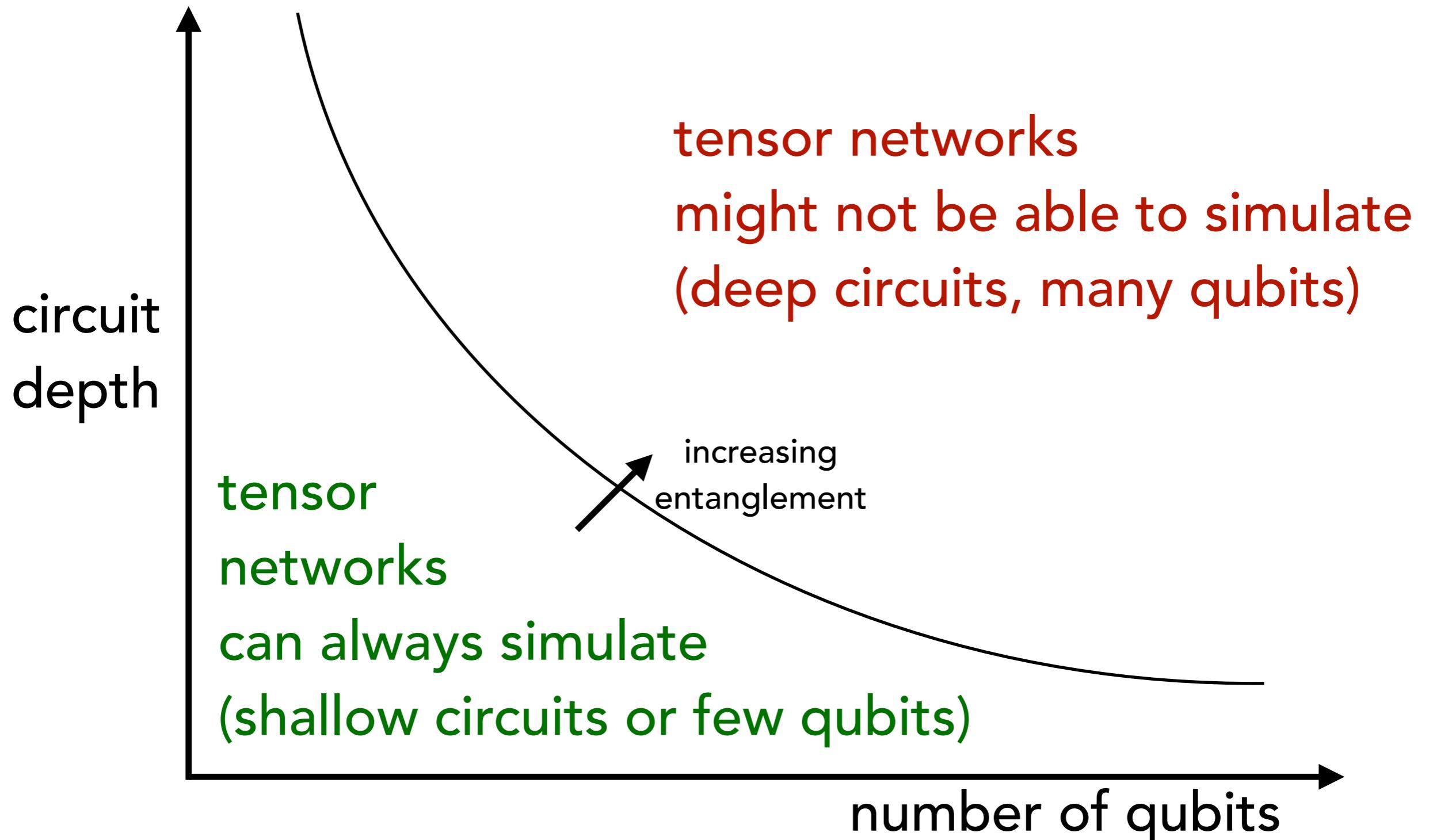
If number of qubits small MPS can also do any number of layers

(20 qubits gives max  $\chi = 2^{10}$ )



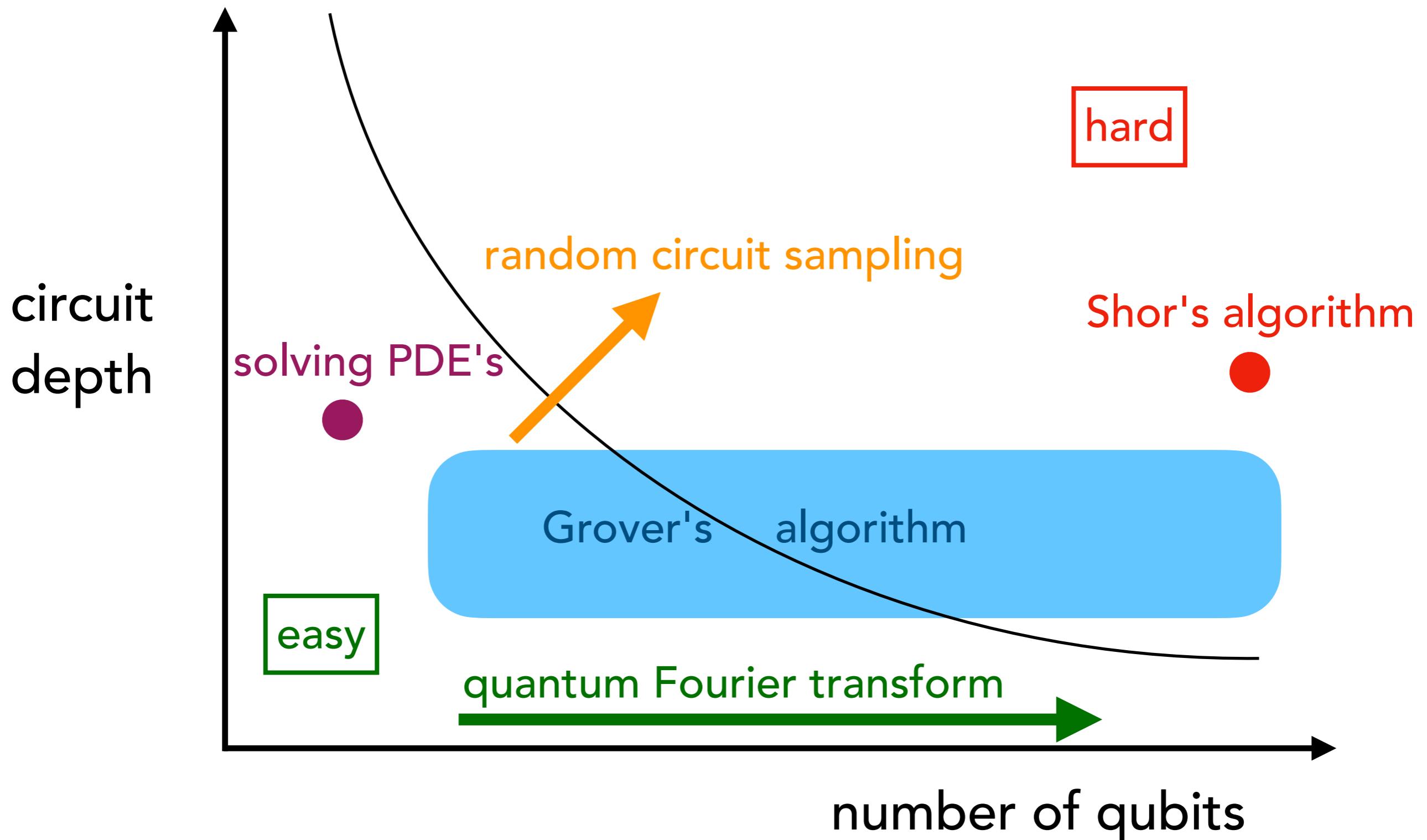
# Tensor Network Simulations

Putting this together\*



# Tensor Network Simulations

Emerging picture of what is easy vs. hard for tensors



# Known capabilities of quantum computer vs quantum-inspired tensor network

	Quantum Computer	Tensor Network
unitary operations	yes	yes
sampling / measurement	yes	yes
non-unitary operations	no	yes
"forced" measurement	no	yes
use unnormalized states	no	yes
moderate entanglement	yes	yes
high entanglement	yes, but how high?	no

## Summary & Outlook

Tensor networks can simulate quantum circuits & support quantum-inspired algorithms

Delineates boundary between classical and quantum computing

Growing applications to many areas:

- novel machine learning algorithms
- black-box, gradient-free optimization
- pure mathematics (quantum groups, category theory)
- high-energy physics / QCD